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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

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18 April 1985

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

PROBLEMS FACING AFRICA DESCRIBED

Paris LE MONDE in French 7 Mar 85 pp 1, 6

[Article by Paul-Jean Franceschini]

[Text] A week before the UN conference to be held in Geneva on aid to an Africa hard pressed by drought, some 20 French-speaking African ministers of agriculture are in Paris and on Tuesday, 5 March, held a working meeting at the Ministry of Cooperation. On that occasion, Nucci called upon those present to "go beyond emergency food aid and undertake a real development policy."

We have long wondered whether Africa was off to a bad start. Some 25 years after its nations achieved independence, it is even more important to know how it is doing. On Monday, the OAU ministers of foreign affairs, meeting in Addis Ababa to discuss an "economic rescue plan for the continent," gave an instructive idea of it: After 8 days of talks, they separated without any other result than a few tirades against apartheid and Israeli policies, in which the required indignation took the place of a smokescreen.

In Africa today, it is poignant misery that one sees and in all conceivable forms: starvation, naturally, the most visible with its medieval death dances transmitted by satellite, but also, escape in the face of war: 5 million refugees, internal oppression, declining production and even, a general impression that there is nothing to hope for and that the continent is adrift.

In August, the World Bank outlined a diagnosis so overwhelming that some even believed it malevolent: "If current trends are to continue, Africa in 1995 will be even poorer than before independence." Like those Western youths who, as their rite of passage to adulthood, push down the doors of the ANPE [expansion unknown], the Black nations have as their sole concern finding their survival allowances. As former OAU Secretary General Edem Kodjo writes in a lucid book marked by courage and enlightenment: "One has to wonder whether our peoples and our continent are naturally stricken with incompetence!" (Edem Kodjo, "Et Demain l'Afrique," Stock, 1985). The author does not therefore throw his pen out the window, but official, institutional Africa has definitely put down its arms.

Are the disasters of starvation solely the work of the "climate," which since Montesquieu has explained the temperaments and misfortunes of peoples? Without

a doubt, expansion of the desert and the regular return of the "lean calves" to the Sahel are formidable and well-known phenomena. However, the way in which Africa has faced the scourge is perhaps even more worrisome. The least one can say is that in recent months, it has not been up to the threat.

The Sudan, obsessed by the "Islamic" concern over cutting off thieves' hands and hanging heretics, has denied the catastrophe to the end, virtuously denouncing the "fables" of newsmen. The essential thing was to impose the Koran on the Christian or animistic South. Ethiopia sounded the alarm earlier but, forgetting the torrents of insults once hurled at the Emperor, accused of responsibility for another albeit less serious famine, the new masters in Addis Ababa have continued to import weapons and Mercedes first! Wanting above all to convert the people to Marx and bring the rebel provinces to their knees, they jeer at those who come to help them in their trials. In order to kill off the rebel fish, perhaps they think that the drought is not such a bad idea, as long as it empties the fishbowl!

Finally, the regional organizations, in a bureaucratic nap bordering on catalepsy, demonstrate their impotence. Continental solidarity scarcely plays a role. In the part of Africa that has been spared, where has anyone seen sumptuous spending cut or superfluous investments deleted?

At the close of 10 years of crisis, starvation has confirmed what everyone already knew. The record of independence is somber. Most nations created a quarter of a century ago are not viable. Civic-mindedness is yet to be born in many. The possible solutions: law-dispensing Zorros like Captain Rawlings in Ghana, magic Marxist or socialist potions, the advent of military strong men, have not substantially modified a situation largely having to do with the very structure of fragile, improvised nations. Finally, the elites have not always played their role. So much have they paraded in the international forums, feasted at banquets in presidential palaces, traveled Boeing first class, and to do so, put so much pressure on the peasants for the benefit of government employees that the *malgoverno*, as the Italians call it, has done sometimes irreparable damage.

Quintessence of Stupidity

In the southern Sahara, outside of the Nigerian giant and the South African Hercules, a pleiad of dwarfs furnishes statistics with 30 of the 40 poorest nations on the planet. As in the "International," which some have entoned, furthermore, they had all taken as their slogan, with the obliging aid of the colonizer: "We are nothing; let us be everything." Whence the dismantlement, now so obviously catastrophic, of the great colonial ensembles of East and West Africa, to the profit of little constructions vacillating on their shaky foundations. "Indelible scars of history," for Houphouet-Boigny, now "intangible borders," the totally theoretical lines that limited the bush tours of the gentlemen governors have become holier than the Oder and the Neisse.

The frogs have quickly become as fat as the colonial cow. Each "nation state" had to have its own university. Study somewhere else? Impossible! Plus its civil service, its army, its diplomacy. A few, such as the Ivory Coast, now

in serious difficulty, could bear the burdens. But in the 1970's, the first oil shortage and the world crisis, followed in Africa by a series of induced coups, scattered the fleet and the exceedingly light craft cracked with the first storm winds.

What was that fragile, fragmented Africa to cling to? Its great "historic" leaders disappeared or floundered in the failure of their administrative. Such was the case of N'Krumah in Ghana, the father and cantor of Pan Africanism, who praised the "United States" of the continent, but did not know how to keep books. Or Tanzanian Julius Nyerere, the famous "Mwalimu" (school teacher) of "African socialism," now president of a bankrupt OAU and a country coming apart. Others lost all good sense by trusting in ideologies. Sekou Toure, having been received at the White House, is presented by Richard Nixon ("Leaders," Plon) in a charming passage: "He was a warm and charming man, but also a convinced Marxist who tried to apply that formula to Guinea with the results that could be foreseen."

To these ravages of the ideological "ready-to-wear," one must add a few undoubtedly inevitable paranoias and deviancias that are picturesque when one does not have to suffer through them, the most spectacular one to date remaining the Central African "Empire." But even those who chosen economic liberalism generally forget its political aspect, placing in the service of a deified president the single party, the fake backbone of that "soft state" of which economist Gunnar Myrdal speaks.

How could the OAU, the gathering of crippled sovereignties, have fulfilled its vast mission? In a most revealing fashion, it used up its strength on secondary problems and brought off the feat of seriously dividing a large number of states scarcely worthy of the name. The matter of the Saharan Arab Republic, a Maghrebian quarrel of little interest to the Blacks, led the organization to the brink of collapse. Was the game worth the candle? "We know," King Hassan II said one day with his inimitable shrewd sincerity concerning the rivalry with Algeria, the backdrop to the entire affair, "that all that is truly the quintessence of stupidity and has to come to an end as quickly as possible for the good of our two peoples." In the meantime, all Africa has become enmired in the quagmire.

The only one to have real power in this weakened unit, the South African Republic has in recent years been able to dictate peace on its own conditions. Already, despite much boasting, it had discreet relations with many countries. Backed by such alliances and above all, American support, it last year dismantled the "front line." Angola and Mozambique, worn out by civil war, put their Marxism in their pockets to make the first compromises. Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe are at the discretion of the regime of apartheid.

At the same time -- and this is not the least painful of the African bad luck -- the internal evolution of southern Africa largely commands the destiny of the continent. If the 5 million Whites finally share the power they have seized, Kodjo is right in dreaming of the relaunching of a Pan Africanism finally amounting to more than talk. But, in a climate of tension and latent war, one has great difficulty seeing how humiliated and impoverished nations could "organize to constitute a power with which the world would have to reckon." Without a great common design, at any rate, it will be as difficult to emerge from their hell as it is for the rich man of the Gospel to get into heaven!

ANGOLA

UNITA RELEASES AMERICANS, PORTUGUESE HOSTAGES

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 18 Mar 85 p 10

[Article by Janine Stein]

[Text] The 27 hostages released from Unita's headquarters at Jamba in Angola over the weekend harbour no ill-feelings towards the rebel troops whom they described as "helpful" and "just doing their job."

The group--unexpectedly enlarged by five Portuguese--arrived at Jan Smuts Airport in Johannesburg on Saturday afternoon to a joyful greeting from relatives and friends, after being held for almost three months.

The three crew members of the TransAmerican Airlines Hercules who were shot down over the North-eastern Angolan mining town of Kafunfo a few hours after the town had been overrun by the rebel movement, said once that had survived the gruelling 600-kilometre march to Jamba they were well treated.

Disappointed

The captain of the aircraft, Captain Gerhard Opel (54) said he bore no ill-will towards Unita "because they are fighting for their country," but was disappointed in Fapla "because the Angolan Government had the information about the attack on Kafunfo earlier in the day that could have saved us, but they did not give it to us."

Captain Opel, although bound by company rules restricting discussion on his landing at Kafunfo said he had a personal feeling of grief at losing a crew member. The co-pilot of the Hercules, Mr William Reed of California, was killed when the plane was shot at by Unita troops.

Shooting at the grounded Hercules only ceased when Captain Opel shouted in Portuguese that the crew was American.

Flight-engineer, Mr Alan Bongard (56), accompanied by his wife Mrs Faye Bongard, told the Press conference: "What happened was an accident. Unita was just doing their job and were as helpful to us as possible."

Mr Bongard was carried by rebel troops for about 10 days after he could no longer walk.

Although their aircraft was chartered by the Angolan Government, Mr Bongard said they had never had close associations with Fapla. "They never pursued us after the capture," he said.

Mr Glen Dixon (47), a field area forman of an independent service maintenance company at Kafunfo, told how he and fellow Briton, Mr John McMichael, and 17 Filipinos were captured during the early morning attack on December 29 last year.

Valuables

"Once Unita had brought us all out, they stripped us of all valuables, took what they wanted and then stood on everything else and destroyed it," Mr Dixon said.

"Unita did not expect ex-patriots in the town and they did not know what to do with us. In the end we marched about 10 km out of town and sat under some bushes while four Soviet MiG 23s bombed the town for about 20 minutes. Then the Hercules came over and were later joined by the three crew members," Mr Bongard said.

Although Kafunfo was "well protected" by trenches and about 300 Angolan troops, Mr Dixon said they were not top grade soldiers and stood little chance against the 1 000 Unita attackers.

He said he had only seen two Fapla soldiers after the assault began, and both of them were dead.

"Fapla always impressed on us that Unita were a bunch of hooligans. But only when you get captured by them do you realise how organised they are," he continued.

Cassava

The men were "force-marched" at night for almost six weeks, eating Cassava-- which Mr Dixon described as wallpaper paste--rice, canned tuna and bully beef.

"One of the biggest problems was the food. They were living off the land, and there was no way we could eat as they did, until we were desperate," Mr Dixon added.

The group was also plagued first by constipation and then by chronic diarrhoea.

Asked whether Unita used any South African equipment, Mr Dixon said although the food in Jamba came from this country, the rebels appeared to use weapons captured largely from Swapo and Fapla. Some came from Portuguese colonial days, he said.

The captives were accompanied back from Jamba by representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross, who went to the Unita headquarters last week after the release had been negotiated.

Returned

Four of the Portuguese who arrived on Saturday were captured in Kafunfo, while the other was taken hostage from a diamond mine somewhere else in the province according to a spokesman from the Portuguese Embassy. They returned to Portugal last night.

The cargo supervisor of the Hercules, 23-year-old Mr Paul Huggins, will return to his home in Surrey, England, with his parents, Mr and Mrs Tony Huggins, on Tuesday evening.

The others said they would probably be returning to their homes, but no definite plans had yet been made.

CSO: 3400/863

ANGOLA

GOVERNMENT ACQUIRES ROCKET-CARRYING HELICOPTERS

Windhoek WINDHOEK OBSERVER in English 2 Mar 85 p 25

[Text]

LUANDA: The Angolan Air Force has acquired MI-25's, rocket-carrying helicopters of high destructive capability and flying with its rocket and bomb load at 250 kilometres an hour with a flight range of 650 kilometres. These machines made a fly-past at a recent Air Force day to commemorate the ninth anniversary of FAPA/DAA, the abbreviation for *Angolan Air Force and Anti-Aircraft Defence*.

Also taking part in the fly-past were MiG-21's, capable of speeds of 2 000 kilometres an hour and highly manoeuvrable. Paratroopers dropped from Antonov troop carriers and there was a display of 'looping the loop' by PC-7's.

It was quite a display and the high brass associated with the Angolan Armed Forces were in attendance such as the Minister of Defence, Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha, known as Pedalé; the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces, Colonel Antonio dos Santos

Franca, known as Ndalu, and Colonel Iko Carreira, the Commander of the Angolan Air Force. Also in attendance were senior officers of FAPLA, the regular army of Angola.

Speaking at the occasion of the ninth anniversary of the Angolan Air Force, Colonel Pedalé welcomed the fact that the Angolan Air Force had, as he said, achieved such a high fighting capacity in only nine years.

He claimed that the Angolan Air Force had grown so rapidly that in less than a decade it had achieved the combat operational level now required for the needs of the war imposed on the Angolan people by an enemy who had highly sophisticated military and technological equipment.

Colonel Pedalé said that the air facilities now available guaranteed rapid FAPLA action against Angola's enemy both through direct attacks and by providing support for ground troops in the form of transport, reconnaissance, back-up, evacuation of the wounded, and the supply of ammunition, weapons and food.

He said that the Air Force played an outstanding role in operations against an enemy onslaught just over a year ago when, according to the Colonel, Angola's enemy failed to extend the area still illegally occupied in southern Angola.

He claimed heavy losses on

the part of Angola's adversaries at the time and said that many armoured cars and several fighter bombers as well as long range artillery batteries, were destroyed by the Angolan Air Force.

Colonel Pedalé recalled in his speech what he labelled the enormous difficulties that had to be overcome in order to create the Angolan Air Force when a combination of enemies faced the Angolan Armed Forces, with UNITA groups controlling a large part of the country at the time with the intention of preventing the establishment of what was today known as the Peoples Republic of Angola. He said that with the founding of the Air Force nine years ago, there was an acute shortage of qualified personnel and of the war material needed to face up to the situation which he claimed as imposed on his country. It had proved a difficult and complex task to build the Air Force, but said the Colonel, the very dialectics of a war fought by a fierce enemy with highly sophisticated and technological needs, determined the rapid development of the Air Force.

He said that the priority task was to continue to develop and to improve the Air Force which today possessed supersonic fighter aircraft and highly sophisticated helicopters with tremendous manoeuvrability, greater fire power and a high degree of automation, as well as very accurate missiles, for no revolutionary power could be maintained without effi-

cient defence, he said.

In his speech he made the observation that the climate of tension had not decreased and he said there was still a danger of aggression. As a result there was a need to continue to pay special attention to the technical development of the Angolan Armed Forces, but particularly the Air Force, since there were no military operations nowadays without the use of efficient air facilities.

He said that greater attention should also be paid to the political education of the Angolan pilots, to the training of personnel and to organisation and discipline.

He criticised the negligence of some Angolan technicians in the use and maintenance of equipment, saying that this had already caused loss of life and of foreign exchange used to purchase the military equipment destroyed. He recalled that the arms and equipment placed in the hands of soldiers, non-commissioned officers and officers of the Armed Forces, were the property of the people and deserved to be properly used.

Colonel Pedalé made reference to what he called the valuable contribution by the Soviet Union both in training personnel and supplying military equipment and by the Cuban troops strengthening FAPLA's defence capacity. At the close of his speech he praised the fighting courage of the Angolan soldier throughout a decade of independence and war. Many counter revolutionaries had given

themselves up to the Angolan authorities for they had started to understand the uselessness of staying in the bush, fighting for a lost cause.

He made the remark that the development of the Army and Air Force had been due to external aggression. Angola, he added, was interested in the establishment of peace in the region since it had no ambitions in respect of its neighbours.

The Commander of the Air Force, Colonel Carreira, also made an address in which he said that the Armed Forces did not represent a threat to anyone. The Air Force was geared to defending Angola and presently his force had the equipment and means to face up to the kind of aggression imposed on Angola by its enemies. He warned that Angola's adversaries would adopt other forms of aggression as they had realised that they could not defeat Angola militarily. He thanked the Cuban troops and the Soviet Union for what he called their valued help in building a national Air Force technically capable of giving the required riposte to the internal and external enemies of the Angolan revolution.

Colonel Carreira said that in view of the present climate of insecurity and the permanent danger of invasion it was necessary to continue to expand and to improve the Air Force of the Angolan Armed Forces at all levels until such time as the entire Angolan territory was wholly defended.

CSO: 3400/847

BOTSWANA

FRIENDSHIP TIES WITH GREECE HAILED

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 1 Mar 85 p 1

[Article by Charmaine Muir]

[Text]

GABORONE: The President, Dr Quett Masire has said the people of Botswana are proud to have entered the bonds of friendship and cooperation with the people of Greece.

Dr Masire was responding to an accreditation speech by the Greek Ambassador, Mr Dimitri Skouroliakos at State House yesterday afternoon.

Dr Masire spoke in glowing terms about Greece which described as a country where democracy was developed and nurtured. The President said that Botswana was flattered to "note that our efforts in promoting democracy, human dignity and social welfare are being commended by the Greek people."

Dr Masire explained that Batswana attach great importance to the principles of human equality and human dignity, and thus jealously guard our national independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

"That is why we have full sympathy and understanding for those who are still struggling for their independence, human equality and dignity," he stressed.

Dr Masire said it was in the interest of all Batswana to promote the cause of peace and justice for all.

"We have great admiration for the successes scored by the Greeks in transforming their country to become an industrial power in its own right," Dr Masire said.

He added that he had no doubt that Greece would use this experience and its membership of the European Community to advance the cause of the developing countries.

Presenting his credentials, Ambassador Dimitri Skouroliakos said what was common between Botswana and Greece was their uncompromising principle of human dignity.

Mr Skouroliakos said this principle guided the two countries in defying policies of human disrespect and in defying acts of interference and violence.

He added that Greece, which had recently emerged from the state of underdevelopment was determined to use its position in the European Community and its experience of development and its available resources to come to the assistance of Botswana.

Mr Skouroliakos said that acting bilaterally in the framework of SADCC, "my Government strongly wishes to explore the ground, to enlarge and deepen its economic cooperation with the Republic of Botswana."

BOTSWANA

CANDIDATES WANTED FOR SOVIET SCHOLARSHIPS

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 7 Mar 85 p 1

[Text]

THE Ministry of Education invites applications from suitably qualified Batswana to pursue studies at higher educational establishments.

Applicants should at least have passed Cambridge Overseas School Certificate or its equivalent with credits in Maths and Science subject and a pass in English Language. Manpower priority has been given to various fields:-

These fields of study include Medicine, Stomatology (Dentistry), Pharmacy, Agrochemistry & Soil Science, Veterinary Science, Farm machinery, Architecture, Industrial & Civil Engineering, Water Supply

& Sewerage Engineering, Railways Construction and Maintenance, Meteorology, Radio Engineering, Aircraft Radio Instrument Maintenance, Electrical Engineering.

Applications from serving officers must pass through their heads of departments and employers. Candidates must not be more than 25 years. Interval between completion of school education and admission to study in the Soviet Union should not be more than three years.

Applications should reach the Bursaries Secretary not later than April 1, 1985.

CSO: 3400/867

BOTSWANA

BDT WARNED AGAINST INVOLVEMENT IN POLITICS

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 4 Mar 85 p 1

[Text]

G A B O R O N E : The Commander of the Botswana Defence Force (BDF), Major General Moppati Merafhe has warned that there was no room in the BDF for those who entertain political ambitions or find it difficult to suppress their party political inclinations.

General Merafhe made it clear that the BDF was a purely professional defence force whose mission was the defence of Botswana. He said it was therefore completely above party politics.

In a keynote speech at the passing out parade for recruits at the Sir Seretse Khama Barracks on Friday, the commander said he expected and required all members of the BDF to adhere strictly to this important policy of political neutrality in the force. He said he felt newcomers should be reminded of this important condition of their employment.

General Merafhe urged the recruits to ensure that they behaved in a manner which did not tarnish the image of the force. He said the BDF had tried very hard and with some measure of success to establish a disciplined defence force. The force would be extremely upset if those who were joining this organisation did not abide by the good traditions which

have been established and have become the hall-mark of the BDF.

The commander said he would not hesitate to take stern disciplinary action against members of the BDF who did not behave themselves properly. He said as members of a disciplined organisation, they should not allow themselves to react harshly to the provocation of some of the unruly elements of our society. He urged them to act with utmost restraint at all times.

General Merafhe reminded the newcomers that there was no greater honour than to be called upon to sacrifice their lives for the defence of their fellow citizens. This was a very important task which demanded complete devotion to duty. He said members of the BDF should be prepared to accept occupational risk that goes with soldiering and remember that their own life was secondary to the lives of the people for whom it was their duty to protect.

The commander said he did not want soldiers who were pre-occupied with their own safety to the detriment of the safety of members of the public. He said the pride of any army was in its ability to meet the expectations of the people it was privileged to serve.

He said an army was a

national investment. It should therefore be responsive to the wishes and aspirations of its people. It must be seen to be an asset rather than a liability. He said good image could not come as a matter of course.

There should be a deliberate and conscientious effort on the part of all members of the force irrespective of rank to portray the image of the BDF in a positive manner so that those who have invested in the BDF could appreciate that they have a credible defence force capable of giving a good account of itself. The BDF required men of good integrity and tenacity of purpose.

Major General Merafhe said the success or failure of the force would be determined by how its members carry themselves around whether on duty or off duty. He said naturally soldiers should be proud of their profession but they should not be snobbish and consider those who are not in the army as inferior to them.

He said it was also natural for soldiers to expect those who were not in the army to reciprocate and give them the recognition which they felt they deserve as human beings. He said recognition was an obsession in human life.

CSO: 3400/867

BOTSWANA

LEADER KOMA SAYS OPPOSITION LACKS INFORMATION

Gaborone THE BOTSWANA GUARDIAN in English 15 Mar 85 pp 1, 2

[Article by Charmaine Muir]

[Text]

The Leader of the Opposition Dr Kenneth Koma has dismissed as false accusations that the opposition goes to Parliament unprepared and unable to back up their debates.

Speaking in an interview, Dr Koma said the BNF's major problem was access to information which civil servants were unable to provide for fear of victimisation.

He noted that the ruling party was at an advantage because they worked closely with all government departments and had readily available information.

This lack of information is one of the problems that the BNF is determined to solve, he stressed.

The Member of Parliament for North East Mr Kenneth Nkhwa (BPP) said the main problem was that "the Government is stubborn and refuses to listen to reason."

Mr Nkhwa accused the government of rejecting opposition sug-

gestions and policy proposals simply because they do not agree with the opposition.

The MP quoted a number of instances when the Government rejected opposition suggestions but later adopted them when faced with a crisis.

Mr Nkhwa said that in the early 1970's the BPP suggested that government establish a defence force for security but the proposal was rejected until Botswana was attacked by the Smith regime.

However, the MP for Maun/Chobe Mr Dikgothi Monwela (BDP) accused the Opposition of criticising successful government policies "just because they are opposition".

He said the Opposition distorted government policies and laws purposely in an attempt to misguide the nation.

Mr Monwela pointed out that the role of the opposition was to assist Government by offering alternative solutions to solving problems and by making positive suggestions.

But Dr Koma said some members of the

ruling party were particularly keen on confrontation with the BNF. He said the BNF would avoid such arguments with the BDP and instead would cooperate and give them "every assistance where they are doing well".

He explained that essentially an opposition is an alternative government and criticises government policies with a view that they should be corrected.

"In this capacity, we advise government when it is doing wrong and not serving the interests of the people," Dr Koma said.

The Leader of the Opposition said the major difference between the opposition and the back bench was that while the opposition could criticise and condemn government policies, the

backbench could only criticise government's failure to implement policies or speak after the government had failed.

Mr Monwela described the backbench as the "watch dog" of the government because they are in constant contact with the people. They make government aware of people's grievances.

Although the backbench accepts government policy, Mr Monwela explained that sometimes they indicate where these policies can be corrected or amended to benefit the people.

Both members of the opposition indicated that because they were in the minority in parliament, their motions were often rejected.

Dr Koma pointed out that an opposition can only be effective if it is strong and has many members in Parliament. "As the case is now, we have a number of limitations," he said.

Mr Nkhwa noted that because of the opposition's numerical inferiority, they were unable to change Government's ideas. He added that if the government was

willing to listen to reason and accepted the good ideas of the opposition, it would be effective.

Other members of the backbench refused to comment on the questions asked. Specially Elected MP Mr Chapson Butale and MP for Lobatse/Barolong Mr Ronald Sebego both declined to respond to questions.

BOTSWANA

LACK OF FUNDS FORCES CLOSING OF KRDA

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 22 Feb 85 p 1

[Article by Larona Sedimo]

[Text] SALAJWE--The Kweneng Bophirima branch of the Kweneng Rural Development Association (KRDA) closed down its business last year because it had run out of funds, the Manager of the branch, Mr B. Mabiletsha explained here this week.

Addressing a kgotla meeting, Mr Mabiletsha said the closure came after the board of trustees had recommended that the management of the association be replaced by a new one since the old one was said to be ineffective in running the brigades.

While this recommendation was being considered, the financial situation deteriorated to the extent where some of the activities had to be suspended.

"The situation was so bad that we even failed to pay our employees who had by then been retrenched," said the manager. They could not even compensate them for their leave days.

After long negotiations, the Canadian Volunteer Service Organisation indicated that it could provide the services of a new coordinator for the association. The association's accountant, had to be elevated to the position of the General Manager.

The Canadian Volunteer Services also pledged P15 000 to pay the General

Manager who would ensure some activities were kept running.

Mr Mabiletsha told the Salajwe residents that the association was not a property of Takatokwane where it was located. He asked them to select two people who could represent the village in the board of directors.

CSO: 3400/865

BOTSWANA

FRG PLAYS MAJOR ROLE IN BUILDING RURAL INDUSTRIES INNOVATION CENTERS

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 25 Feb 85 p 1

[Text]

KANYE: The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany has played an important role in the building of Kanye Rural Industries Innovation Centre (RIIC), the Southern District Council Chairman, Mrs Kebatshabile Disele said here on Monday.

She was welcoming 18 councillors from the Kgalagadi District who had visited RIIC to learn more about its operations and development.

She told them that the Government of Botswana managed to build the centre through the financial and technical support of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Mrs Disele said that the centre aimed at starting a development strategy which could later be extended to rural areas. She added that since its establishment in 1972, the RIIC had shown remarkable progress.

She requested her colleagues to encourage people in the Kgalagadi District to visit the centre to see and buy locally produced goods like the furniture made at the centre.

The visit of 18 councillors, she said would strengthen the friendship between the Kgalagadi District and the Southern District councils.

Briefing the Councillors, the RIIC General Manager, Mr Kitsiso Morei, explained that RIIC operated under the umbrella of Rural Industries Promotions and is aimed at

developing technology which could benefit people in the rural areas.

He said that in 1972, the Botswana Government signed a contract with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation of West Germany that the Rural Industries Promotions should run the RIIC for ten years, and thereafter the Botswana Government would take over.

Mr Morei explained that the RIIC had three divisions, namely, the Research and Development; Extension and Training, and a Commercial wing. He said that in the past 10 years, RIIC had developed over 150 different items.

At present he added the Research and Development Division was exploring wind energy to develop windmills.

He said that it was their wish that RIIC manufactured goods should be distributed to rural areas.

RIIC had donated an Animal Drawn Pump and desalination Plant to Khawa residents in Kgalagadi District, and was planning to make Biogas at Kang, the councillors were further told.

Explaining the Councillors visit, the Kgalagadi District Council Secretary, Mr A. Ntseane said the visit was to familiarise the Councillors with the Centre. He said Councillors would benefit from their visit and would encourage their people to buy implements made at the Centre.

BOTSWANA

OVER 1,000 JOBLESS AS TEXTILE INDUSTRY CLOSES

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 25 Feb 85 p 1

[Text]

FRANCISTOWN: More than 1 000 workers here have been made jobless because a number of textile industries have closed down their workshops while others have drastically retrenched their labour force.

Factories which closed down completely are, Lace and Trimmings, Crotchet Knit and Braided Trimmings for Garment, Upholstery and Allied Industries, Peak Clothings, Metropolitan Trousers Manufacturers and Apex.

Everest Mills are reported to have retrenched 200 workers, Commercial Enterprises 110, Peak Clothing 200, Pan African Hat 80.

Nine more factories are faced with the possibility of closing down completely as a result to the new Zimbabwe Customs and Excise Act, said the Acting District Labour Officer, Mr A.C. Kitso.

Mr Kitso was however optimistic that the current visit to Francistown by a Zimbabwean Customs and Excise official would bring tangible results to the textile industry in that town.

He pointed out that the official was here to inspect some factories to determine the originality of the material used.

Late last year, another official from Zimbabwe carried out a similar inspection to find out whether textile products from Botswana were 25 per cent local content.

Textile workshop owners here are stockpiling their goods in anticipation of a better outcome of the Zimbabwean official's visit.

Mr N. Patel - Managing Director of Commercial Enterprises told BOPA that his company had diversified its manufacturing operations and was looking for alternative markets elsewhere.

The problems facing textile industry here followed an amendment to Zimbabwe's custom and excise laws governing exports from Botswana to that country.

The factories here were expected to export about P20 million worth of textile goods to Zimbabwe during this year, according to one local expert.

CSO: 3400/865

BOTSWANA

PRESIDENT MASIRE COMMENTS ON RURAL ADMINISTRATION

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 25 Feb 85 p 1

[Text]

SEROWE: The President Dr Quett Masire has said that although external economic intervention is welcome as assistance or cooperation, it is better for a country to rely more on its local resources as this stands to enhance its political independence.

Dr Masire was speaking here on Friday when he commissioned the Rural Administration Centre which was completed last year at the cost of about P2 million.

The President explained that when "we talk about independence and self-reliance, we refer to the ability to manage our own affairs with little or no intervention from outside." That intervention, he said, could be political, military or economic.

The President also noted that the Rural Administration centres have been provided in several district headquarters under a national programme in three phases.

He said, phase one covered the provision of centres in Ghanzi, Maun, Ramotswe and Tshabong at a total cost of P250 000. Phase two included the centres in Mochudi, Molepolole, Serowe, Tutume and the one still under construction in Kanye.

He said that the total cost of providing those centres is P8 million with an assistance

of P3 million from the European Development Fund while P5 million was drawn from the Domestic Development Fund.

He said that the fact that a bigger amount of the construction cost came from local resources was a typical example of translating into action the national principle of self-reliance.

Dr Masire said that two more centres were to be built at Bobonong and Letlhakane under phase three of the Rural Administration Centres. Phase three will also cater for the expansion of centres constructed under phase one in order to meet the ever-increasing demand for office accommodation, he said.

He reminded the people of Serowe that the provision of office accommodation in the form of those rural administration centres was a clear indication of the importance the government attached to rural development.

He reiterated that rural development had been the dominant theme of the Fifth National Development Plan which is about to end.

President Masire further observed that the construction of administration centres which catered for office requirements of all district agencies was the most

economic approach to meeting the demand.

He said, the present scattered sites of the local authorities and Central Government departments inhibited the regular contact and close cooperation which was important for co-ordinated rural development.

By bringing the various local and central government agencies under one roof, communication and co-ordination amongst themselves was facilitated and it was also convenient for dealing with members of the public, the President said.

The President said that the centre had 170 rooms including stores and toilets. It housed about 20 government and council departments and had a modern telephone exchange.

Earlier, Dr Masire said that he intended to go on a country-wide tour after the current meeting of Parliament. He appealed to the nation to appreciate the fact that the Budget Meeting of Parliament was one of the most crucial meetings of the year.

CSO: 3400/865

BOTSWANA

TEXTILE EXPORT INDUSTRIES CRIPPLED BY MARKET CRISIS

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 6 Mar 85 p 2

[Text]

PARLIAMENT: If the current problems of trade between Botswana and Zimbabwe persist, a large number of industries face closure which can lead to severe unemployment especially in the northern area, the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Mr Moulakgola Nwako told Parliament last week.

Speaking during the debate of the Appropriation Bill, Mr Nwako said that the manufacturing sector was facing a problem in trading with Zimbabwe.

He stated that many industries, especially in Francistown, which have been established over the past few years export mainly to neighbouring countries, with Zimbabwe as the main customer.

He however said that the recent change in Zimbabwe's rules of origin had introduced an element of uncertainty among many local industrial enterprises.

"Zimbabwean customs officials have advised most of our industries that their products do not qualify for export to Zimbabwe under the new rules of origin," Mr Nwako said.

He informed the House that latest reports indicated that some industries had already closed down, adding that the government was aware of the seriousness of the situation

and had taken up the issue with the Zimbabwe authorities.

"We have suggested that the materials of either country which are used in the manufacture of a given product in either country be accepted as local materials in the process of determining the origin of a given product," said Mr Nwako.

"We remain convinced that this approach would not only strengthen our relations by promoting a healthy two-way trade between Botswana and Zimbabwe but that it would considerably reduce the current uncertainties and difficulties among our enterprises who export to Zimbabwe," the House was also told.

He expressed hope that a mutuality of interests would prevail over shortsighted and negative tendencies that could undermine trade relations.

Mr Nwako also told Parliament that his ministry was further concerned by delays experienced in the clearance of those firms which otherwise qualify according to the new rules of origin. He felt that these delays and inconveniences caused further financial hardships to local companies which might lead to disruptions in trade with Zimbabwe.

BOTSWANA

MASIRE DECLARIES FOURTH YEAR OF DROUGHT

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 12 Mar 85 p 1

[Text]

GABORONE: The President, Dr Quett Masire has declared part of the country, where at least 70 per cent of the rural population live, drought-stricken.

He also announced that the Government would continue to run a full scale drought relief programme in these areas until at least the end of 1986, to allay human suffering.

In a nationwide radio broadcast Sunday morning, Dr Masire described the areas severely affected by drought as Southern, South East, Kgaleng, Kweneng, Ghanzi and Kgalagadi districts, as well as Boteti, Serowe-Palapye and Mahalapye sub-districts of the Central District.

The President also declared Chobe and North East districts, North Central, Tutume and Bobonong sub-districts as recovery zones. Ngamiland District has recently made a good start on the season and may also fall into the recovery zones, he stated.

He assured that the Government would continue to monitor the extent of recovery in all these zones. If genuine improvement does materialise, a post-drought recovery programme will be implemented.

Dr Masire announced that supplementary food will continue to be given at health

facilities to all groups presently receiving it in the drought-stricken areas. These groups are pre-school children, children up to 10 years not attending school, permanent and temporary destitutes, pregnant and lactating mothers and TB outpatients.

Feeding at primary schools and social assistance for remote area dwellers will continue. Also to be continued are efforts to intensify direct feeding for actually malnourished children at health facilities. The President observed that mothers were encouraged to bring their children regularly for feeding if they are found by health staff to be malnourished.

The President also announced that labour-based public works projects for the able-bodied will continue throughout the country until at least the end of 1986. The drought stricken areas will to some extent get priority in the allocation of funds. In the recovery zones, he said, the projects should be used both to assist people with supplementary income and to make contributions to future agricultural production.

He added that all agricultural relief measures would continue in the drought-stricken areas in the form of cattle purchase scheme, free

seed distribution, subsidised sales of stockfeed and botulism vaccinations, subsidisation of the hiring of draught power for families which lack access to it, the destumping scheme, and assistance to groups of farmers with agricultural water supply projects.

The President announced that in the recovery areas, only those agricultural measures which will contribute to the further recovery of farming will be implemented. These will be the cattle purchase scheme, the draught power subsidy scheme and destumping. He said otherwise seeds will be available for purchase at subsidised prices as before the drought, and stockfeed will be for sale as normal. Other types of assistance will, be available under the development projects such as AL DEP.

Dr Masire disclosed that rainfall has been around average or 20 to 40 per cent above average in the limited areas of recovery. The national crop production could be in the range of 15 000 to 20 000 tonnes if conditions do not suddenly worsen. This amount will only be some 10 per cent of the nation's food needs, and almost all of it will come from the recovery zones.

He said this level of food production will be very inadequate to meet the food needs of the people there. The Government recognises that some assistance must continue to be given to areas

taking the first steps towards recovery. The recovery programme, the President pointed out, will therefore focus on helping those who continue to need rehabilitation and on consolidating the improvement in agricultural production which has begun to be experienced.

The President also appealed to Botswana's friends in the international community to assist in the same way they did most generously in the past few years. They had to undertake our relief to limit the rises in malnutrition and destitution which otherwise would have occurred.

He said assistance from the international community would now be needed for both relief and recovery areas throughout 1986. This food will contribute both to immediate relief and to rehabilitation, and will be targeted increasingly to those groups and areas most in need.

The President stated that technical assistance in the form of experts and qualified volunteers had been most useful in our labour-based and food distribution programmes, and would continue to be needed.

Financial assistance from both national and international sources was also sought, as Government's limited resources would continue to come under severe strain due to the scale of requirements for these programmes.

CSO: 3400/867

BOTSWANA

NATIONAL LOCOMOTIVE DRIVERS OPERATE SOUTHERN ROUTE

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 22 Feb 85 p 2

[Text]

PARLIAMENT: The posts of Zimbabwe drivers and guards who were operating trains on Mahalapye to Ramatlabama have been localised by Botswana as a first step towards the railway take over, Parliament was told this week.

Answering a question from the Member of Parliament for Tswapong South, Mr G.G. Sebeso, the Minister of Works and Communications, Mr Colin Blackbeard, explained that this section would continue to be under the administration and operational control of the National Railways of Zimbabwe till the date of the take over which is scheduled for January 1, 1987.

He said the question of compensation would be decided with the governments of Zimbabwe and Zambia who own the railway in Botswana on the basis of the unitary system.

He added that staff on this section are employees of the National Railways of Zimbabwe since they still control the section.

He however, said 26

posts of drivers, 23 guards, 15 shunt men, 4 station master and 3 station foremen have been localised since April 1984 on this section. Adding that as the section was under the control of National Railways of Zimbabwe, they collect the rail fares.

A separate statement on the progress of the take-over would be made later during the next meeting, he said.

Mr Sebeso had asked the Minister to give a comprehensive statement relating to the takeover of the section of the railway line from Mahalapye to Ramatlabama and to say how much has the government paid or was to pay to Zimbabwe for that section of the railway.

He also asked the Minister to say how many persons, and of what grades, has our government employed in the said section of the railway line, and to say how much in rail fares has Botswana collected from passengers who have travelled between Mahalapye and Ramatlabama to date since the takeover was effected.

BOTSWANA

MP MONWELA COMMENTS ON URBAN MIGRATION, OTHER ISSUES

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 25 Feb 85 p 2

[Article by Chairmaine Muir]

[Text] GABORONE, February 20--Batswana have been accused of becoming lazy and flocking to urban areas in search of employment, instead of remaining in the rural areas to plough and tend their herds.

The attack came from the MP for Maun/Chobe, Mr Dikgothi Monwela in Parliament during the debate on the budget speech last Wednesday.

Mr Monwela urged the Government to make reservations for periods of drought and to encourage farmers to plough during this period.

He advised that stretches of land be reserved to be used for grazing during difficult years. He noted that there were vast stretches of unutilised land with luscious grass and boreholes along the Nata/Kazungula Road.

Mr Monwela questioned why this grass was not used as an emergency, as the state of grazing in the country had deteriorated.

Commenting on the National Food Strategy, the MP noted that during periods of drought the Government should not waste time but take action where necessary because "the longer we delay, the more we will have to wait."

He said food production was a serious issue which had to be discussed for the benefit of the nation.

Mr Monwela urged the Government of big farmers to increase their production because they could contribute to self-sufficiency in agriculture.

He argued that it was worthless wasting time on farmers who produced one or two hectare and thus could not really contribute to self-sufficiency.

He criticised the attitude of agricultural officers to farmers and claimed that they failed to tour successful agricultural projects so as to give farmers incentives.

Mr Monwela urged the Government to assist people using sprinklers, irrigation and other modern farming technology in agricultural production.

Commenting on the Financial Assistance Policy (FAP), Mr Monwela said that it had progressed well despite the fact that there were a number of problems in its implementation.

He noted that because the FAP administration was extremely rigid, many people were not able to benefit from the policy.

The MP complained about the announcement that Selebi-Phikwe would be regarded as a rural area for FAP purposes and argued that other urban areas would request similar benefits.

Mr Monwela criticised the use of the word 'rural' when referring to Selebi-Phikwe.

The MP also complained about the information on the failure of the Kgaswe Coal Project. He said the Parliament should have been informed earlier on the development there.

The MP for Shoshong, Mr Goareng Mosinyi spoke at length on the creation of employment in the rural areas in order to curb urban migration.

He said it was impossible to expect people to remain in the rural areas when there were no employment opportunities.

Mr Mosinyi also discouraged temporary employment because it did not solve unemployment problems since it was just a temporary remedy.

He advised that communication between the urban and rural areas be improved drastically, and complained of the narrow roads with deep dongas at the side.

Mr Mosinyi said roads like these were a hazard and argued that rural development could not be achieved without an improvement in the communication system.

Also speaking in Parliament today, the MP for Mochudi Mr Greek Ruele expressed gratitude that steps had been taken to safeguard the numerous problems being experienced in Selebi-Phikwe.

Mr Ruele noted that the failure of the mine to make a profit had caused the Government a number of problems related to employment for the number of people working there.

The MP asked how long Selebi-Phikwe would be regarded as a rural area for FAP purposes.

Mr Ruele also urged the Ministry of Works and Communications to take into consideration the accommodation of railway staff as many are still housed in tin shacks which are unsuitable for human habitation.

Noting that the Ministry of Mineral Resources and Water Affairs had been given the second largest share in the budget, Mr Ruele requested that it should plan ahead and identify suitable sites for borehole drilling. He said this would prevent problems similar to those suffered by the Mochudi residents in October last year.

The Department of Information and Broadcasting was criticised by the MP for Gaborone North, Mr Maitshwarelo Dabutha who said it was high time the department respected the wishes of its listeners. He said that their bulletins fluctuate in such a way that people were never sure when to listen to the news.

Mr Dabutha complained about the 50 per cent of the P10 million given to the BDF because Botswana was "faced with many threats."

Mr Dabutha questioned why all the funds were allocated to the Ministry of Works and Communications while it was necessary to strengthen our military force.

He reminded the House that people in Gaborone North had already been attacked and thus were worried about their security.

The MP also complained that the police station in Gaborone North was just a branch of the Central Police station and requested that it be upgraded.

Mr Dabutha said the Gaborone North Police station covered a wide area extending into the Kgatleng District and therefore had to be efficient.

CSO: 3400/865

BOTSWANA

BRIEFS

RADIOS FOR LOCAL POLICE--PARLIAMENT--It is desirable to install Radios similar to those used by council clinics for the local police in the district villages to communicate with their headquarters for improved communication, the Minister of Local Government and Lands, Mr Lesedi Mothibamele told the Parliament this week. He was answering a question from the Member of Parliament for Shoshong, Mr G. S. Mosinyi on Tuesday. The Minister however said, his Ministry was making efforts to provide the Tribal Administration with minimum facilities like offices. He added that progress on this matter might not be as smooth as was desirable due to financial constraints. Mr Mothibamele promised that as soon as the problem of office accommodation had been alleviated, the installation of radios would be considered. At the moment, he said, the local police officers are wherever possible, free to use radios in council clinics to transmit messages quickly. Mr Mosinyi had asked the Minister whether he would not consider it appropriate to install radios similar to those of council clinics to be used by the local police in the district villages to communicate with their headquarters as to improve communication net-work which was almost non-existent. [Text] [Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 22 Feb 85 p 2]

CSO: 3400/865

ETHIOPIA

FRG TV ON ETHIOPIAN IRRITATION OVER BLOC ATTITUDE

DW271117 Mainz ZDF Television Network in German 2045 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Rainer Hirsch video report from Addis Ababa showing impressions of the city, the mercato market, Asab Port, and wide-angle shots of prominent buildings; from the "heute-Journal" program]

[Text] The pictures of President Mengistu and those of Marx, Engels, and Lenin are seen here on revolutionary square in Addis Ababa. During the revolution festivities last September they were still side by side, now they have been separated. Is this an external indication of a new development or mere coincidence?

Representative building in downtown Addis Ababa along Churchill Road are deceptive; most of them date back to the Haile Selassie era. The revolution has enriched Addis primarily with administrative buildings. All around us is everyday life with a socialist facade; irritation over shortages, arbitrariness of the authorities, and increasing prices. Wages do not go up.

At first glance the goods on sale on Mercator Market, East Africa's biggest, appear to be plentiful. But measured by the daily needs the commodities of daily life are scarce, and the inflation rate is 100 percent. Just a few hundred meters away from the market people are living under poorest conditions. Comparably they are still well off, because more than 90 percent of the Ethiopian people are living at the edge of the subsistence minimum.

Ethiopia, forward this was the revolution motto of 1974, but who still believes in it? The state coffers are practically empty, above all as a result of the long, deadlocked battles with the rebels in the north. The costs for them keep growing.

Ships from West and East are unloading cargoes at Assab Port food from the West. The Soviet ship in the background carries weapons. No filming is allowed.

At the moment the Ethiopian government keeps distance in both directions. President Mengistu does not make any bones about the fact that he is primarily interested in preserving Ethiopia's independence. Even in the past several years the advisers from the East bloc no longer reaped any deep gratitude for

arms assistance, because all goods Ethiopia imports from socialist fraternal countries must be paid in hard currency. The people here have become suspicious of their friends. They have not forgotten that the GDR demanded 10,000 tons of Ethiopian coffee as payment for its truck deliveries and then sold the same coffee to the United States at a high profit.

And the people here indeed demonstrate their irritation. Just recently Cuban advisers came to feel it when the Ministry for Housing Construction assigned to them accommodations in the worst residential district of the capital.

CSO: 3420/47

GHANA

BULGARIA TO REOPEN GOLD MINES

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 2 Mar 85 p 2

[Text]

GHANA is one of the African countries benefiting from preliminary prospecting being done by Bulgarian Geological and prospecting experts of the "BULGARGEO-MIN".

According to Sofia Press Agency, Bulgarian Geologists will help reactivate the Obenumase Gold Mines in Ghana. More than 2,500 Bulgarian Geologists and prospecting experts of "Bulgargeomin" state economic association are working on projects in 15 countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Preliminary prospecting is also being carried out in another 28 countries by the experts of the state company, winner of the Malta Government Award "Pheonix -- 78" as well as one of the "Golden Mercury -- 81" award.

Tunisia was the first foreign country in which "Bulgargeomin" started working several years ago. Deposits of lead and zinc ore were discovered there and the "Freige el-Adoun" mine was constructed.

Contract with "Bulgargeomin" have several times been renewed by the Tunisian authorities. Similar is the case with Algeria, too, where a geological survey in the Atlas mountain region has been made in addition to the designing

and construction of the ore-extraction combined works near Setif, and the completion of many other projects. Underground waters traced by "Bulgargeomin" in Libya turned large desert areas into fertile soil.

"Bulgargeomin" activities now are spelt out in contracts for restoration and commissioning of gold mines in Nicaragua and Mozambique for prospecting and extraction of poly-metal ores in the People's Republic of Congo, Somalia, Tunisia, Angola, etc.

The association is actively working on various projects in Zambia, Ethiopia, Tanzania and Ghana. Its programme for the coming years envisages a feasibility study of underground gas exploitation in the Jebissa region in Syria, requiring the use of sophisticated technology and special maintenance and service equipment in conformity with safety and fire precautions. Work on the Project is successfully under way.

Wherever Bulgarian experts are at work, they share eagerly their experience with local people or help them train their own specialists. The forms of co-operation are constantly being enriched on the basis of mutual willingness and understanding.

CSO: 3400/839

GHANA

TECHNICAL, ECONOMIC AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH ITALY

AB271621 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Ghana and Italy have signed an economic and technical cooperation agreement in Accra. The two sides also reviewed the state of mutual relations particularly in the area of economic and technical cooperation within the framework of the economic recovery program. Under the agreement, the Italian government will co-finance the Kpong waterworks rehabilitation project at the cost of \$3.7 million. The Italian government also agreed to finance the national cooperative tractor rehabilitation and operational maintenance program with a grant of \$1.3 million. The Italian government also expressed its willingness to co-finance a \$10 million program for the rehabilitation of power systems of the Volta River Authority.

At the request of Ghana, Italy has agreed to consider the possibility of allocating a grant to finance a technical management assistance to the Aluminum Rolling Mill project at Tema.

Ghana requested Italy to reestablish commercial credits for expansion in economic relations between the two countries. The Italian delegation agreed to pursue this matter with the appropriate authorities. In connection with the request, Ghana indicated some projects to be considered as priorities. These are the extension of power grids to the north and the rehabilitation of timber equipment of Italian origin. The two sides agreed to hold annual consultations to review economic and technical cooperation between them.

The agreement was signed for Ghana by the Secretary for Finance and Economic Planning, Dr Kwesi Botchwey, and the Italian Undersecretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Mario Raphael.

CSO: 3400/879

CHANA

MINERAL INDUSTRY'S DEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN CAPITAL DISCUSSED

London TALKING DRUMS in English Vol 2, No 23, 11 Mar 85 pp 10-11

[Text] Many developing countries can aptly be tagged as the 'supply vessels of the developed countries' diet of minerals and metals. Mineral production appears to be the only way towards economic development and consequently most of these developing countries have their economies wholly dependent on the sale of minerals and metals.

Besides, mining as the central occupation in the mineral industry, is capital intensive, requiring huge financial outlays and specialised skills of technology and management, so that developing countries who have natural resources of minerals to harness or exploit usually resort to joint partnership with foreign companies or to borrowing on the international money market in order to establish their mining companies. Thus the mineral industry has developed a major characteristic of total dependence on foreign capital, technology and expertise.

Ghana, as a developing country, is no exception to this trend for her present and future of the mineral industry is tied up with foreign capital expertise.

DIAMONDS

Diamonds have been mined in the Birim river valley in the Eastern part of Ghana for nearly sixty to eighty years. The past two years have seen the dwindling of the fortunes of this once giant company which has opened up the hinterland of West Akyem Abuakwa for nearly a century. Now the diamond pits are exhausted, finished and the stones are bare with no shine or lustre. Output has fallen progressively over

the years as reserves got depleted.

In 1981, the company produced 836,583 carats and in 1982, it was down to 682,354 carats. Excess plant capacity has accepted redeployment on farming, building projects, etc, in order to create local revenue and reduce losses. Meanwhile, the message is loud and clear that unless a major exploration programme is undertaken to find new richer reserves, the Ghana Consolidated Diamonds will have to fold up.

But where is the money? If finally some company in a foreign country with plenty of money to invest — yes, invest, that's the word — it signifies a new round of partnership with exploitation and everyone hugs and smiles and hope for a better tomorrow. Thus it is with cheer that the nation welcomes a consortium of diamond merchants led by INADCO A.G. of Switzerland with £3.3 million to "help us" dig for diamonds. And since they are diamond dealers first and foremost, they get a ready supply of the finest stones.

From that they pay GCD and then GCD pays them for the loan they have taken from them and the partnership survives . . . but that is not all. GCD have accepted other loans, well lines of credit to be precise, from two Indian companies, Tata Exports Ltd and BEM Ltd for \$3.3 million for supply of machinery and equipment. One more line of credit and GCD will be okay for the time being, this time from Aveling Bradford of the UK for £1 million. Meanwhile, the UNDP has spent £2 million to explore in the Birim Valley for more diamonds.

GOLD

There is the story about gold. It is that in a country where gold conjures charm and affluence, sale of gold is still against a closed market and any talk about it is done under whispers with trepidation and fear, in fact, far more fearful than any attack of leprosy. The State Gold Mining Corporation (SGMC) is a wholly-owned Ghanaian Company which mine and sell gold from three sites, viz, Prestea, Tarkwa and Dunkwa, and until recently, at Konongo.

The SGMC, like all "State Enterprises" is steeped in, and notorious for, low productivity and inefficiency, so much so that it is virtually milling to a complete halt just like the Konongo Mines just stopped operations all of a sudden. Many expert opinions see a major rehabilitation as a way out of the predicament of the SGMC.

Currently a World Bank loan is being negotiated for the Tarkwa and Prestea mines. Several foreign companies are waiting in the wings to cut a slice of investment. The Mitchell-Cotts of the UK and the AMAX Mining Group of the USA have jointly sent a representative to assess the situation. The government of Bulgaria has expressed interest in the re-development of the Konongo and Obenemasi gold mines which had already been declared shut by the SGMC as being 'exhausted' and "economically not viable".

Already, UNDP Technical teams and mining experts from Bulgaria are due to begin exploratory and prospecting work which will eventually reactivate the two old mine workings. Local assistance in this respect will be offered by the Department of Mining Engineering of the Kumasi U.S.T.

Still on gold, another US Company, Major International of Texas, is teaming up with American-based Ghanaian businessmen to mine alluvial gold at Nyafomang in the eastern region and in the Ankobra river valley in the western region. The recent addition to goldmining investment in the country involving foreign capital is the Ghana-Libya Mining Company which has sought and obtained the full agreement with the State Gold Mining Corporation to operate a surface mining venture at Bibiani in the western region.

Ghana, of course, has huge gold deposits, estimated to be around two billion fine ounces, out of which only about 1% have been extracted, according to reliable sources close to the Geological Survey Department. A major portion of the gold deposits lie in the reef currently centred at Obuasi about 60 kilometres from the city of Kumasi where gold has been mined for many years.

The Ashanti Goldfields Corporation (Ghana) Ltd is a partnership between the government of Ghana with 55% shareholding and Lonhro Ltd of the United Kingdom with 45% share, although Lonhro, in addition, manages the mine on contract through its subsidiary Lonhro Technical Department based in London. The mine at Obuasi has a large population of expatriates who enjoy unprecedented high sterling salaries and housing privileges.

Still, the AGC (Ghana) Ltd has recently negotiated a \$120 million loan from the International Finance Corporation to expand her operations. The Lonhro tycoon, Mr Tiny Rowlands, accompanied by British Conservative Parliamentarians were in Ghana last year to sign the agreement for the loan. The company's expansion programme revolves around the giant George Capendell Shaft and the newly envisaged New Justice Shaft located at Anyinam and Nyankomasi at the southern periphery of Obuasi township and which are hoping to increase AGC's gold output to 400,000 fine ounces per annum within five years.

Of course, gold production, even short of refinery, is an expensive business and at Obuasi nearly eighty per cent of all inputs consumed at the mine for day-to-day operations are imported and, in fact, there appear to be many companies in the UK who could go bust without AGC's regular imports, but then that is the nature of the business. No doubt it takes a foreign management team with a self-sustaining Export Department located in London to handle equipment and material procurement to keep the mine working. One can understand the predicament of the state-owned S.G.M.C.

Ghana has no facility for refining gold at the moment, and gold produced in the country is sold to a Swiss Bank. There have been strenuous

demands by Trade Union groups for a reactivation of the refinery proposed to be built in Tarkwa by the CPP government. There are reliable sources of evidence which point to the fact that the present volume of gold produced in Ghana all put together will not be enough to make the operation of a full-fledged refinery viable.

Secondly, like all metal refining processes, electric power consumption will be tremendously high and whether that amount of power will be available is a critical factor. Yet the Russians have indicated their willingness to establish a "gold purification factory" at Tarkwa and their offer has been warmly welcomed by the government.

One does not rule out the Soviet style of assisting Third World countries in the mining industry. Theirs is called the 'Compensation Theory', which means they design the plant, deliver equipment, install and engage experts and then they pay for all these with products of the project or plant. It has happened in Guinea for bauxite, Algeria for lead and zinc, in the Congo for lead, and in Egypt for aluminium. However, one view of this Russian theory is that it is the same story of dependence on foreign capital and expertise.

EEC FINANCE

The current visit to Ghana of a delegation from the European Economic Community (EEC) to appraise the EEC-funded projects in the country thus draws attention to the financial aid which the mineral industry has been enjoying under the terms of the Lome Conventions. At a news conference in Accra, the head of the EEC delegation, Mr Patrick Everard, disclosed that the EEC has been providing on the average \$20 million annually towards Ghana's development, out of which a substantial part goes to the mineral industry.

Two of such projects need mention here: In 1983, the EEC granted ECU6 million for the rehabilitation of the

Manganese mine at Nsuta where depletion of ore reserves necessitated the procurement of new equipment and machinery to enable the extraction of the remaining low-grade manganese deposits. Another grant of ECU6 million was also granted by the EEC for rehabilitation of the Tema Oil refinery (GHAIP).

OIL PROSPECTING

Oil prospecting along Ghana's shores also involves international loans and finance. The International Development Agency granted \$11 million to help accelerate the level of Petroleum exploration along 7000km of shoreline, which contract went to Geophysical Inc. towards the latter part of last year. The Canadian government also granted nearly \$1.5 million for oil prospecting by the Canadian Company, Petro-Canada Assistance Co.

MINERAL COMMISSION

It can be seen, therefore, that most developing countries, like Ghana, cannot hope to operate successfully without the expertise, technical and management teams and without the backing of substantial finance from overseas. All that can be said at this stage is to call for streamlining of negotiations and terms of participation so that the joy of partnership can be spread to all sides involved in any venture.

The twice re-negotiated terms with the former Agri-Petco (now Primary Fuels Ghana Ltd) is a classical example. Ghana established the Minerals Commission in the latter part of 1984 to advise the government on all issues relating to exploration and production of minerals and to formulate a mineral policy that will regulate the inflow of capital to keep the mineral industry going. One hopes that as the Commission has taken four months to set itself up it would wake up now for the tasks ahead that are waiting.

GHANA

NKRUMAH SAYS AFRICA NOT FREE WHILE APARTHEID EXISTS

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 6 Mar 85 pp 3, 7

[Article by Kofi Dapaah: "Africa: Resist Apartheid"]

[Text] AT the attainment of independence 28 years ago Ghana's first president, Dr Nkrumah gave the famous assurance that the independence of Ghana would be meaningless unless it was linked to the liberation of the entire continent of Africa.

That was not an empty slogan or a nice-sounding promise of no worth. Despite Ghana's problems it has shown its resolute commitment to the cause of liberation in Africa.

Today the focal point of African liberation is Southern Africa where a racist white minority occupies Namibia illegally and oppresses the Black majority in (the Republic) South Africa.

As (ever) before, the recent OAU liberation Committee meeting in Accra and the OAU ministerial meeting in Addis Ababa have heightened the need to speed up the efforts to defeat the racist regime.

This means that all independent African countries and the world-wide anti-apartheid movement must ensure that actions are taken to isolate and weaken the South African government and thereby use (the) pressure to help the cause of national liberation.

Visit

Latest reports indicate that certain African countries may be collaborating with Pretoria in various forms, thus helping the S. A. regime to break out of the isolation. There are reports that recently the South African Foreign Minister, Pik Botha visited some countries in East Africa.

From one perspective his visit was a failure since it did not give him the expected results, despite reported pressure from the United States on behalf of the South Africans.

It is not a secret that as part of the "constructive engagement" policy of the United States, Washington would want to see more "engagement" between African countries and the Pretoria regime.

Whilst the Americans argue that this will make it possible for a dialogue to take place and thereby convince Pretoria to change its ways, the majority of the African countries are convinced that the opposite of this will be the result.

If as a result of American pressure, some African countries begin to receive the South African authorities, this will have the effect of splitting not only the OAU but the whole anti-apartheid front whilst at the same time dealing a bitter blow to the liberation movements in South Africa and Namibia.

In one respect, Botha's trip to East Africa was a "success". Some western reports have detailed a secret agreement between Somalia and South Africa. According to these reports Somalia is to give landing and refuelling rights to South African planes at Mogadishu airport. More ominously there is reported indication that the South Africans may have obtained rights to use Somalian territory for military purposes.

Approaches are said to have been made to some countries to receive South African delegations and possibly begin diplomatic dialogue. Countries mentioned include Gabon, Zaire, Malawi, Morocco, Ivory Coast, Zambia and Swaziland.

It would be unfortunate if any of these countries should give in to South African and American entreaties. This would be a set-back to the great efforts being made by the progressive international community and cause irreparable damage to the OAU.

The nature of the pressure on independent countries in Africa from Pretoria and its allies can be very subtle but intense.

Recently the President of the Association of Africa Lawyers, Mr Benoit Ngom reported that the Camerounian authorities refused to allow his organisation to hold an anti-imperialist event in that country despite earlier promises that it would host the event. Cameroun had even agreed to participate in the event.

According to Mr Ngom, in July 1984 he received permission from the Camerounian Minister of Justice to organize the international seminar against apartheid.

Despite the preparations for the seminar, by the eve of the opening date no official confirmation of the permission had been given. Eventually the permission was refused by the Office of the President.

Needless to say this was distressing to the liberation movements which were to attend as well as the international organizations and countries which were to take part. Is it possible that pressure had been put on the Camerounians by Pretoria or Someone working on her behalf?

The struggle in South Africa is moving into a critical phase and Ghana and the other countries committed to the liberation struggle must ask all African countries to stand firm so that South African racist and other allies do not have their way. The pressure must be resisted.

CSO: 3400/840

GHANA

LIBYA'S SUPPORT FOR RSA FREEDOM FIGHTERS PRAISED

Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 4 Mar 85 p 2

[Editorial: "8 Years of 'Jamahiriya'"]

[Text] ALL progressive and revolutionary forces are very clear in their minds about the two reasons why world imperialism seeks to falsely project the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya as a danger to other African countries, and the leader of its revolution, Muammar Al-Qadhafi, as a pestilential busy body to the continent: The first reason is Libya's firm step on the revolutionary path. The second reason is Qadhafi's pledge to the OAU to put Libya's resources in really practical ways at the disposal of the freedom fighters of South Africa in support of the armed phase of their liberation struggle against the apartheid regime.

All revolutions in the Third World are anti-Imperialist; they are therefore essentially against neo-colonialism, for a clear reason: Imperialism is a system of foreign domination of a country's economy through the control of its political organization. This political control is directly exercised through the colonial system (the resident colonial government). As a colony is lost with the attainment of independence and imperialism thereby loses its direct political means of dominating the country's economy, it changes to non-direct political methods of maintaining the same economic domination. These new methods of controlling a country's economy form the system called neo-colonialism. Therefore any country which takes the path of revolution is a threat to the interests of neo-colonialism in that country itself and a danger to neo-colonialism in other countries because other countries may follow its example. Libya succeeded in establishing its revolution and is making steady advances in the revolutionary process. This development must not be recommended to the rest of Africa. So Imperialism tries hard to paint a wrong, repugnant picture of Libya to other African countries--albeit a futile attempt.

The apartheid regime in South Africa is important for imperialism in two respects. In the first place, it is a colonial system that enables the imperialists to have direct political control of the country without appearing to be exercising this control since the rulers of South Africa are not foreigners as other colonial governments had been. Colonialism is internationally discredited, so the surrogate apartheid regime saves imperialism that embarrassment but enables the imperialist economic domination to proceed in South

Africa all the same. In the second place, the apartheid system pins the overwhelming majority of South Africans to a social condition of low economic needs, thereby creating a vast state of cheap labour for super-profits for imperialist investments there.

Anyone who tries to assist in real terms the early decolonization of South Africa, as Qadhafi has pledged to do, is therefore certainly a special concern for imperialist forces. The 'Ghanaian Times' has taken these issues before and argued that what the imperialist forces try to do against Qadhafi and Libya should be seen as a vital index of the character of the general counter-revolutionary subversion of the African emancipation struggle.

The people of Libya on Saturday celebrated the 8th anniversary of the 'Declaration of the Authority of the People'--the commemoration of the occasion on March 2, 1977 in the city of Sebha when the Libyans decided that the cause of participatory democracy is irrevocably entrenched in the revolution, the cause of grassroots involvement in decision-making (Jamahiriya). In the eight years since the popular base of the Al-Fateh revolution was thus firmly proclaimed, the Libyans have steadily proved that the process seeks to improve the people's productive efficiency, make them masters of their destiny, free men in their own country, and supporters of the principles of human rights. They do not seek to make enemies but are ready to defend their rights against enemies. And most of all, they recognize that their own security is better ensured by the security of Africa.

CSO: 3400/840

GHANA

UNIONS URGED TO POLITICALLY EDUCATE WORKERS

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 7 Mar 85 p 1

[Text]

MR Kwame Karikari,
Lecturer at the School
of Journalism and
Communication Uni-
versity of Ghana, Le-
gon, has called on the
Trades Union Con-
gress (TUC) to embark
on a political educa-
tion of workers on
what goes on in the
society.

He said as long as the
working class is not in the
forefront of politics, they
will continue to become
recipients of mere bene-
volence through collecti-
ve agreements.

Mr Karikari was
speaking on "Ghana, the
struggle for genuine in-
dependence and the role
of working people" at a
symposium organised by
the Political Department
of the TUC to com-
memorate the 28th anniver-
sary celebrations of the
independence of Ghana
at the TUC Conference
Hall in Accra on Tues-
day.

He said for the working
class to make any mea-
ningful impact in society,
they must organise effec-
tively and struggle
against any system that
is not in the interest of
workers.

Mr P. B. Arthiabah,
acting Head of the Orga-
nisation Department of
the TUC, said the work-
ing conditions of workers
would not improve until
they are able to wield
political power.

He said because of the
perpetual inflation in the
economy, the purchasing
power of the worker
would not improve "un-
til the working people
manage to free themsel-
ves in some other way".

The December 31 Re-
volution, he said, gave
some indication of what
workers' power could be,
adding that "total power
can only be achieved if
workers unite on all
fronts and forge ahead in
pursuance of their inter-
ests".

CSO: 3400/841

GHANA

FRIMPONG VISITS MILITARY ESTABLISHMENTS, STRESSES DUTIES

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 13 Mar 85 p 5

[Text]

THE Force Sergeant Major W.O.1 Frimpong who is also the Armed Forces CDR Organising Assistant is currently on tour of Military Establishments in Accra/Tema area to talk to the troops on military duties and discipline, present economic situation in the country, proper care of weapons, national security and the need for participation of all ranks in Armed Forces CDR projects.

Accompanying him on the tour are W.O.1 Aftul, Assistant to the Force Sergeant Major W.O.1 Anderson, Army CDR Organising Assistant, C.P.O.1 Mensah, Navy CDR Organising Assistant, W.O.1 Davor, Air Force Organising Assistant, W.O.1 Osei of Air Force Flight Operations and Staff Sergeant Jakpa, Secretary, Armed Forces CDR.

At every unit visited, the Force Sergeant Major explained that the appointment of Force Sergeant Major was a new one to which he had been privileged to be the first holder of that appointment.

He appealed to all to co-operate with him in his efforts to measure up to expectation as his success or failure depended on them. He stressed the permanency of the appointment and its success story by others was the responsibility of all ranks especially the Non-Commissioned Officers Corps.

He continued that as

the most senior Sergeant Major by appointment and being directly responsible to the Force Commander, he was in a unique position to convey to the Force Commander reaction of all ranks to Armed Forces issues and government policies.

On military duties and disciplines, he reminded troops of the rigorous training they went through on their enlistment and the resultant physical and mental development. He continued that other ranks who maintained and developed these qualities were able to earn rapid promotions on being posted to their various units.

The Force Sergeant Major reminded troops of the oath they swore on enlistment and exhorted them to obey orders from their immediate superior ranks promptly as the orders came from higher command.

He observed that some Non-Commissioned Officers were losing control of men under their command by failing to strictly enforce Armed Forces Regulations on offending or defaulting soldiers. He finally called on NCOs to justify the confidence reposed in them. Commanders who recommended their appointments or promotion.

On the present economic situation in the country, the Force Sergeant Major drew the attention of troops to the state of the economy before the December 31 Revolution, at the beginning of the revo-

lution and the positive gains achieved as at now.

He mentioned the improvements of the fuel and food situation, increased industrial production, salaries and wages re-adjustment, the re-stocking of goods in shops and markets and appealed to them to appreciate the efforts of the government and continue to defend the ideals of the revolution to enable the government to achieve its goal.

He then warned soldiers to desist from assisting friends and relatives in clearing goods from our ports of entry without paying duties and taxes.

He also warned troops against collection of private debts of relatives and friends. This, he said, should be left to the courts.

On national security, he called on the troops to be alert, loyal and to ensure proper custody and care of their weapons at all times, since the loss of one's weapon, could result in dismissal from the Forces.

The Force Sergeant Major appealed to all ranks who were still keeping weapons and ammunition at home to return them to their various units for proper maintenance. He

warned that anyone caught during searches would be severely dealt with.

On participation in CDR projects and programmes the Force Sergeant Major complained of the indifferent attitude of units when asked to participate in CDR projects. In most cases only young soldiers were detailed to these projects without being led by NCOs.

He appealed to both Commissioned Officers and NCOs to lead the junior ones to these project areas and portray their leadership qualities by participating meaningfully, as they were vital to the interest of all of them.

He asked everybody to support the CDR executive in their efforts to assist Commanding Officers and Officers Commanding in keeping barracks and work places clean.

He also appealed to the Armed Forces wives to co-operate with their husbands at home to enable them to concentrate on their military duties and indicated his intention of meeting them in future to discuss matters affecting their welfare.

CSO: 3400/841

GHANA

BRIEFS

BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR PLEDGES AID--THE out-going Brazilian Ambassador in Ghana Mr Agenor Soartes Dos Santos, on Monday paid a farewell call on Mr Justice D. F. Annan, member of the PNDC, at his office in Accra. In an interview with the Ghana News Agency, Mr Santos disclosed that experts from Ghana and Brazil met recently in Brazil to consider priority areas in which Brazil could offer technical assistance. He said at the meeting which was held under the Ghana/Brazil Technical Co-operation Programme, a memorandum of understanding was signed. Mr Santos who leaves Accra tomorrow for reposting assured Ghana that after working out the modalities, the necessary steps would be taken to implement the programme. Mr Santos said areas Brazil would be expected to offer technical assistance include irrigation, grain storage, sugarcane cultivation and production. He said financing of the projects was being worked out.
[Excerpt] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 6 Mar 85 p 16]

YUGOSLAVIA AIDS COCOA INDUSTRY--A MAJOR cocoa plantation and processing project is to be established at Manso-Nkwanta in the Ashanti Region next year under a Ghana-Yugoslavia Agriculture Co-operation Agreement. The project is designed to help recapture Ghana's position as the world's leading cocoa producer and exporter. Negotiations are currently going on between officials of the two countries to finalize arrangements for the signing of the agreement. Dr Dvozden Topalovic, director of Poljodrivredni-Kombinat-Beograd (PKB), an agricultural complex in Belgrade, and a representative of the Yugoslav Chamber of Economy, disclosed this to Nana Bi-Kusi Appenh IL. Omanhene of Manso-Nkwanta, and his elders at a ceremony here on Thursday. Under the agreement, Yugoslavia would provide equipment and machinery, technical experts, fertilizers, pesticides and other inputs. Ghana will bear the local expenditure on the project. Dr Topalovic said 5,000 hectares of land had been acquired for the project which would eventually be expanded to 20,000 hectares. On completion, he said, Ghana would be expected to export 20,000 tonnes of cocoa and cocoa products annually to Yugoslavia. Dr Topalovic observed that Ghana had a conducive political climate for foreign investments, adding; "that is why we have come with a lot of investments and the success of this project will depend to a large extent on the co-operation of the government and people of Ghana." [Frank Otchere] [Text] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 2 Mar 85 p 1]

JOINT GDR AGRICULTURAL VENTURE--THE German Democratic Republic (GDR) and the Ghana Government are to embark on a joint agricultural venture under which a State Farm would be established in the Volta Region. The first phase of the

venture which is still under negotiation would entail maize production which would be followed later by cattle breeding for meat and milk production. This was disclosed by the Ambassador of the GDR in Ghana, Mr Franz Everhartz, when he briefed newsmen after discussions held behind closed doors with Mr Justice D. F. Annan, PNDC member, in the latter's office yesterday. The Ambassador hinted that the GDR is also negotiating to rehabilitate the roads in Kumasi. He further revealed that the Embassy would offer scholarships to 57 Ghanaians to undergo various training programmes, including sports and journalism in the GDR every year under a cultural agreement. Talking about the discussions, Mr Everhartz said that they discussed ways of strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries. The discussions also touched on a new cultural and consular agreement and mutual judicial matters, the Ambassador added. Mr Everhartz, who also said that the GDR finds in Ghana real alignment for maintaining peace, condemned armament and was of the opinion that until the arms race is stopped, the whole world would be living under dangerous situations. He hoped that the GDR would be able to complete its projects so as to take on bigger ones. [Rosemary Ardayfio] [Text] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 9 Mar 85 p 8]

FOREIGN CURRENCY TRAVEL PERMITTED--Travelers leaving or entering Ghana can now carry on them 60 pounds sterling or 30,000 CFA francs. However, such monies should be declared at the entry or departure points. This was announced by the principal inspector of the Customs and Excise Department in charge of the Aflao Division, Mr S.K. (Mam), when he addressed customs officers at Aflao as part of the activities marking the customs week. [passage omitted] [Excerpt] [AB282228 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 28 Mar 85]

CSO: 3400/879

KENYA

PARASTATALS RECEIVE GOVERNMENT ATTENTION

Major Problems of Parastatals

Nairobi THE WEEKLY REVIEW in English 8 Mar 85 pp 8-9

[Text] THE Working Party on Government Expenditure, which submitted recommendations to the president in 1982, pointed out that although direct government participation in industrial and commercial activities was initially advocated as a way of facilitating development, promoting regional balance and attracting private investors, such government participation turned out to be too heavy a burden on the treasury to accomplish these goals.

Government participation in commercial enterprises was also expected to help Africanize the economy because many Africans lacked private capital and entrepreneurial skills to start businesses on their own. But in fact this governmental strategy has impeded, not aided, Africanization. The Working Party on Government Expenditure blames this situation on a number of factors. Whereas governmental participation in commercial and industrial sectors should have speeded up the localisation of these sectors by providing "a transitional form of ownership", this never happened because this transition never ended. The government did not transfer its holdings in these activities to private citizens. Thus the state, rather than the private Kenya citizen, became a good capitalist.

Parastatals have had other problems: inefficient operations due to poor management, misappropriation of funds, and other forms of corruption. According to the Working Party, these problems stem from these institutions being given too big a public function and having ~~too~~ many employees. Further, some measures taken to protect parastatals have helped make them monopolistic and the resul-

tant lack of competition has kept such monopolies from improving their services and products.

Another reason for the poor performance of the parastatals is that private investors diverted public funds to projects and technologies that were inappropriate for the country. "The result has been that revenues from the sale of shares have not materialised, dividends from investments have been insignificant, subsidies and continuing losses have escalated government expenditures and true Kenyanization has been impeded", the Working Party reported.

Investment in parastatals has cost Kenyans about £900 million. Direct investment and loans by the government were £15.8 million in the 1970/71 fiscal year. By 1975/76, this had risen to £52.1 million, and by 1978/79, to £76 million. There was a slight reduction in the 1980/81 fiscal year to £67.3 million because the government had begun making serious efforts to contain this expenditure.

When to these figures are added those of loans guaranteed by the government - amounting to £400 million by 1981 - "then of the cumulative investments, direct and guaranteed, of about £900 million, possibly as much as £200 million will ultimately have to be written off or assumed as a direct obligation of the government". According to the Working Party report, the government became an action agency managing commercial enterprises "instead of the creator of a favourable setting in which people [could] develop themselves. Management talent has been spread so thinly over the many responsibilities which were assumed by

government that all are managed less efficiently."

In view of all these problems the government should "do more of what it does well and less of what past experience shows others can do better". The Working Party believes that many parastatals would be better managed and more productive if they were in the hands of private owners.

Both private partners and the government have exploited parastatal to the limit private partners by subverting stated government objectives (when, for example, private partners bring into the country inappropriate technology and projects), the government by insisting on an excessive number of employees, bad project locations (decided upon for political rather than economic reasons) and unprofitable operations. The result has been that some parastatals have for the most part been maintained by government subsidies and some have never paid a cent for dividends on government investments.

The Working Party believes that the problematic history of parastatals demonstrates that initial objectives in setting up parastatal bodies have been overlooked, disregarded and at times actually nullified. Many Africans, the report states, have acquired "management skills, experience and access to capital, and thus more of the responsibility for commercial and industrial development can be left to their initiatives. Private foreign investors should in the future be attracted to Kenya

by the opportunities here, not by special concessions and government participation."

The Working Party strongly recommends the divestiture of government equity investments in commercial and industrial enterprises by selling such shares to Kenyans, because it thinks the ventures will generally be more productive, better managed and more profitable in private hands. New investments by government, says the report, should therefore be limited to commercial loans to Kenyans and their companies. The Industrial and Commercial Development Corporation and the Development Finance Corporation of Kenya could handle such loans. The numerous other private non-banking financial institutions that have mushroomed in recent years could also be encouraged to lend more to Kenyans to start up industrial and commercial enterprises.

"A decline in commercial investments by government and the disposition of some of the existing investments", says the Working Party, "should help considerably to reduce the government deficit and to restructure the development budget in favour of more basic development needs." Such a divestiture by the government will also help the industrial and commercial sectors become more efficient and respond more urgently to the structural adjustment programme and the export promotion policies of the government. ■

Dismantling Parastatals

Nairobi THE WEEKLY REVIEW "Industrial Review" supplement in English 8 Mar 85
p 9

[Text] **W**HETHER or not to dismantle parastatals is no longer a question for the Kenya government, which has accepted the recommendations of the Ndegwa Committee Report and the Working Party on Government Expenditure that it divest itself of many of these institutions. The government is involved in almost every area of private-sector business: it owns shares directly or indirectly in salt, sugar, beverages, alcohol, food processing, canning factories, drugs, textiles, shoes, paper, cement, batteries, radios, fishing equipment, tyres, vehicles, hotels, and

drilling, mining and engineering operations.

One would expect government involvement in these investments to be strategic; they are not. According to the Working Party committee, these businesses were in fact "underwriting with government money risks which should be borne by private investors". Many of these investments are moreover in companies owned or managed by foreigners. The Working Party calls for a programme to enable the government to rid itself of some of its investments so that private Kenyans

"who are prepared to take the risks of enterprise in pursuit of the profits that can be earned" can invest in these areas. The Working Party recommends that a parastatal advisory committee be given the responsibility of finding the ways and means of carrying out this government divestment. The 1984-88 Development Plan stipulates that this should be done in the current plan period. Part of the problem is finding how best to sell the government shares to Kenyan entrepreneurs and investors.

Parastatals that remain after this government divestment must, according to the report, be those crucial to national development and those where concern for efficient management transcends monetary considerations because good management in these areas is critical for the welfare of the Kenyan people. The Working Party recommends enactment of the proposed State Corporations Act to regulate the creation of parastatals. This act will enable the government to monitor and review the development, operations and management of parastatals.

The report also recommends that a task force on divestiture of government investment be set up, under the auspices of the

parastatal advisory committee, to review and assess the activities of parastatals so as to recommend which ones ought to be got rid of and the ways in which this can be done which will ensure that government shares are not bought up by foreign companies.

The report also recommends that investments made with funds from operating surpluses be subjected to the same criteria and procedures as apply to new investments by the government and that parastatal budgets be integrated into the forward planning and budgetary processes of the functional ministries while the day-to-day running of the parastatals is left to their management staffs.

Most of these recommendations have already been accepted by the government in its 1984-88 Development Plan. The investments division of the treasury has been given the function of chief financial steward for all government investments. As a shareholder and financier, it will safeguard the financial interests of the government. It is currently doing this by providing guidelines for enterprises and forward budgeting of current operations. ■

New Parastatal Policies

Nairobi THE WEEKLY REVIEW "Industrial Review" supplement in English 8 Mar 85
p 10

[Text] **FOLLOWING** the Philip Ndegwa study on statutory boards and the report from the Working Party on Government Expenditure, both of which revealed the government's inability to manage the financial affairs of parastatal institutions, which have become a drain on the national treasury, the government has worked out new parastatal policies.

The 1984-88 Development Plan classifies parastatals as entrepreneurial, developmental or financial, and offers measures to improve the policies and procedures of parastatal operations such as uniform criteria for investment decisions, rationalisation of subsidies and the reduction of governmental contingent liabilities in the government's guaranteed loans to parastatals. The government's fire-brigade approach to petitions from parastatals institutions to bail them out of crises is being discarded.

Poorly thought-out joint ventures by parastatals and the private sector have

been another government headache. The government will no longer participate in entrepreneurial ventures in the private sector if the government's contribution is purely a capital one. This decision obviously stems from disastrous partnerships with the private sector in the past: with Ken-Ren Fertiliser plant in Mombasa, which was a non-starter, and with the giant Kisumu Molasses plant, which, although millions of shillings have been sunk into the venture, is going nowhere.

New guidelines have been set up also for the preparation, appraisal and approval of public-sector investment projects. The government is also going to give greater opportunities and responsibilities in commercial activities to the private sector and hopes that its divestiture of parastatals will increase the economic role of the private sector.

The few parastatals that will remain will be expected to borrow money on

strictly commercial terms by meeting the same commercial productivity tests the private borrower must. Parastatal borrowing for non-productive purposes will be strictly limited in the next four years. In the past, the government has had to assume directly some of the bad debts of the parastatals. A large amount of the country's scarce resources have been diverted to government use, thus leaving only a small allocation for the private sector. This even though the performance of the public sector in Kenya has been dismal and, in some cases, disastrous.

The Working Party on Government Expenditure said that the near 30% of the resources in the gross domestic product allocated for government use in the 1980/81 fiscal year was excessive. The government plans to reduce this figure to 25% by 1988 so that more resources may be allocated to the private sector. Furthermore, 30% of the resources given to ministries will be earmarked for development as opposed to overhead expenditure.

Many parastatals accumulated large debts due to agricultural credit. The government has decided that subsidies will be distinguished from agricultural credit, and that subsidies will be budgeted under the appropriate ministries and will thus compete with other ministerial projects for funds, while agricultural credit will be made available on strict commercial terms of security and

credit worthiness.

The 1984-88 Development Plan stipulates that an agricultural development bank be set up that will be the primary institution for mobilising funds for agricultural activities - for loaning these funds on a commercial, and generally short-term, basis to the Agricultural Finance Corporation and the Co-operative Bank to be lent to farmers.

So-called forward budgeting for the major parastatals was to be effected by the end of the 1983/84 financial year and the 1984/85 budget is expected to reflect the linkage between budget planning and administration, financial planning and management in parastatals. The investment division of the treasury has taken on an expanded role - that of integrating the parastatal sector into the forward budgeting process and of continuously monitoring the government's interests in the parastatal enterprises.

The investment division is to maintain up-to-date information on the government's equity in and loans to parastatals (including loan guarantees) and records on past, current and prospective dividends, interest payments and debt repayments. The same division is also to be responsible for government stock holding and for creditor interests at parastatal board meetings - especially meetings about commitments to investment projects. ■

CSO: 3400/842

KENYA

ATTRACTIVE FINANCING SECURES AIRBUS TENDER

Nairobi THE WEEKLY REVIEW "Industrial Review" supplement in English 8 Mar 85 p 3

[Excerpts] THE Kenya government has decided to re-equip Kenya Airways with Airbus instead of Boeing wide-bodied aircraft. According to reliable sources, the decision was made in December and the government has since been trying to finalise a deal which involves an investment of over \$133 million in two Airbus type A 310-300 aircraft, accessories and training facilities. The first aircraft is due for delivery sometime in April 1986 and the second in November 1986, though it is understood that the government is pressing Airbus Industrie, the manufacturers, to deliver both aircraft in April 1986.

The government's choice of the Airbus ends nearly three years of speculation about the kind of aircraft that Kenya Airways would buy to replace its aging fleet of Boeing 707s. Starting next year, noise regulations in most European countries to which Kenya Airways flies will bar aircraft of the Boeing 707 type because of their excessive noise. Because of the age of the Kenya fleet, as well as the need to take advantage of the more economical technologies of wide-bodied aircraft, it was not considered practical to refit Kenya Airways' Boeings with quieter engines in order to meet the noise pollution standards of western European airports.

Reliable sources say the decision to buy the Airbus was based on several complex considerations, but in the end what may have swung the deal in favour of Airbus was the financial package they were offering. Total investment in the two Airbus aircraft came to \$133,315,000 as compared with Boeing's \$144,458,300 for two B 767 200s. Both Airbus and Boeing stipulated that Kenya Airways put down

a refundable advance deposit of \$200,000, but whereas Airbus wanted a pre-delivery advance deposit of 16% of the purchase price, Boeing asked for 30%.

Airbus offered a financing arrangement that covered 95% of the total investment, 10% in the form of financial market loans and the remaining 85% in the form of export credit. The Kenya government is expected to come up with 5% of the investment in the form of a down payment. Boeing offered a package amounting to 93% of total investment, with the money coming from a number of financial institutions, including the US Export Import Bank, the Japanese Export Import Bank and commercial banks. The down payment to be made by the Kenya government was 7%. But whereas the overall interest rates payable on the Airbus package is 11.63%, with financial market loans running for 5 years and export credit loans for 10 years, the Boeing overall interest rate was lower at 10.81%, with commercial bank loans running over 5 years and taking up 13.5% of the loans for the deal, and export-import bank loans running for 10 years.

In order to service the loans to purchase the new aircraft, Kenya Airways will of course have to be substantially restructured. The national airline has been losing money since it began operating in 1977. It has accumulated an overdraft of over shs.105 million with the Kenya Commercial Bank and has blocked funds in a number of countries such as Zambia and Sudan to which it has no access. According to reliable sources, the restructuring of Kenya Airways will be undertaken as a parallel exercise with the re-equipment of the airline with the new Airbus aircraft. ■

KENYA

BRIEFS

STUDENTS PROTEST COURT HEARING--Two lawyers representing five of the 14 students appearing in court in the wake of disturbances at Nairobi university last month (see I.O.N. No 169 and 171) withdrew from the case on March 5, in protest at what they termed the court's misconduct. Moses VETANGULA and W.M. KOKONYA both complained they had not been consulted when it was decided to bring the hearing forward three weeks from its original scheduled date of March 27, and had insufficient time to prepare their case. The following day all 14 students refused to take any part in their trial, as a gesture of protest against the decision of the presiding magistrate, H.H. BUCH, not to release them on bail but to remand them in custody in a top-security jail. All the students deny the charges against them. Last week one of the principal defendants, former student leader Mwandawiro MGHANGA, who was appearing with four others, claimed he had been tortured in detention by policemen who had threatened to kill him. The hard-line attitude of the legal authorities is seen as clear evidence that the government wants to make an example of the students, even though the charges which it has managed to lay against them are very minor ones. [Text] [Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English No 172, 9 Mar 85 p 4]

CSO: 3400/843

LIBERIA

ALIENS WARNED TO STOP FALSIFYING CITIZENSHIP

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 5 Mar 85 pp 1, 6

[Text] The chief of security at the Immigration Bureau, Col. J. Exodus Kerdoe, says it is a crime against the State for anyone to falsify Liberian citizenship.

He said hereafter drastic measures will be taken against any alien who goes to the Foreign Ministry and falsely claims to be a Liberian Citizen just to obtain a passport.

He told newsmen in an interview recently that his section had unearthed alleged discrepancies in the issuance of passports at the Foreign Ministry where some Liberians aid foreigners to falsify citizenship.

Col. Kerdoe said several such persons who falsify Liberian citizenship had been discovered and arrested. However, he said because of security reasons he could not disclose the names or

number of persons apprehended.

He said the act had mainly been discovered through concerted action by the Immigration Bureau, the Foreign Ministry and the Joint Security.

Col. Kerdoe said so far his section has received maximum co-operation from the passport section which was reportedly misled by some Liberians.

He said before a passport is issued, a clearance from the Immigration Bureau must be obtained by the applicant in order to establish his or her nationality.

Col. Kerdoe said the immigration clearance was necessary to facilitate passport officers at the Foreign Ministry to speedily implement their duties regarding the identity of citizens and non-citizens.

CSO: 3400/837

LIBERIA

ISRAELI CONSTRUCTION FIRM PLEDGES TO HELP BUILD AGRICULTURE MINISTRY

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 4 Mar 85 p 1

[Text]

The Yona Group of Companies, an Israeli construction firm with headquarters in Jerusalem, has pledged to assist government construct a new agriculture ministry.

The pledge was made by the company's president, Mr. Mordechal Yona when he and his delegation paid a courtesy call on Agriculture Minister Joseph N. Boakai at his Sinkor office here.

Mr. Yona said "We are aware of government's effort to provide public buildings to house the various ministries" adding that it was in an effort to help government realize this objective that he had

made the pledge.

Minister Boakai who welcomed the delegation earlier, informed the Yona president that his ministry would invite proposals that could help improve Liberia's agriculture program.

He praised Mr. Yona's effort in undertaking infrastructural development in the country, as well as his company's effort to reactivate the Liberia Timber and Plywood Corporation (LTP) in Greenville, Sinoe County.

The Yona Group of Companies is pre-financing the construction of the new Ministry of National Defense.

CSO: 3400/837

LIBERTA

GOVERNMENT ADOPTS REFORMS FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 7 Mar 85 pp 1, 6

[Text] The Liberian Government has decided to undertake a comprehensive reform and restructuring of its public enterprise sector.

This was contained in a "policy statement on state enterprises" issued here Wednesday by the government. The statement was issued following several meetings here "to discuss trends in the Liberian economy and consider positive and constructive measures to facilitate economic recovery."

The move is aimed at reducing the size of the public enterprise sector through "divestiture, and or restructuring" so that it includes those enterprises that are essential to the government's public services and are economically viable."

It is also intended to restore the operational efficiency and financial health

of enterprises remaining in the public sector through physical, financial and managerial reform.

The move is also intended to establish an institutional and policy environment for government enterprise relations that will clarify the objectives which enterprises are to pursue, making their boards and managements accountable for results, while limiting the government's function to monitoring performance according to agreed and specified criteria.

ENTERPRISE RELATIONS

To improve the institutional structure regulating government/enterprise relations, government is to shortly establish by decree a Bureau of State Enterprises (BASE) as an independent agency of government.

The policy statement

also said the proposed BSE will also serve as secretariat to the Economic and Financial Management Committee on state enterprises affairs.

JOINT MANAGEMENT

"Among other things in its provision of public services, the Government of Liberia will consider granting franchises to wholly private enterprises under suitable agreements to safeguard the public interest, or joint public/private ownership or enterprise providing public service where appropriate, with management responsibility vested in the private owners, or management by private commercial operators under contract with the government of Liberia," the statement said.

It also said government will accordingly create new public enterprises "only where necessary and found economically feasible," and that government intends to delegate the responsibility for efficient management of public enterprises to each corporation's board of directors and managers.

On wages and employment, the policy statement said government has decided to

adopt medium-term policy framework for public sector wages and employment to "reduce the share of the wage bill in public revenue and expenditure" as well as "to rationalize the structure of wages and salaries in the public sector."

The policy statement said the decision was necessary, recognizing wages and employment policy as a critical instrument in promoting the growth and development of the Liberian economy, and that the trends in wages and employment in the public sector in recent years have posed major problems to development policy.

WAGE EMPLOYMENT

The statement said in pursuance of the objectives of the wage and employment policy, government has decided to continue to undertake those measures already being implemented, as well as additional measures necessary for their attainment, as set out in the relevant policy statement.

The policy statement on the "concession sector" said government has decided to improve its capacity to monitor developments in the international market for commodities produced by

concessionaries.

Government also decided to promote a healthy and predictable policy environment for investors with regard to legislation, taxation, social service regulations and other policies that might affect concessions.

"Towards these ends, the government will establish a Bureau of Concessions, the terms of reference of which will be as outlined in the relevant decree," the statement said.

The statement said the decision was taken recognizing that the viability of concessions depends on their ability to compete effectively in the international markets with producers of similar commodities in other countries, and cognizant of the need to direct attention to promoting new concessions and expanding existing ones, as well as sustaining the viability of existing concession operation.

RICE PRODUCTION

In another development the Liberian Government will next July introduce a policy measure intended to ensure consistency between domestic production incentives, imports, and stocks of

PL 480 and commercial rice and pricing in the country.

The statement said the government decided on the matter because it was "cognizant of the crucial role the rice sector exercises in the Liberian economy."

It said the government was also desirous of "stimulating production of this important staple as well as ensuring that adequate supply is always on the local market."

Under the new measure, the "long term objective of the government's rice sector policy" would be to promote efficient domestic production to a consistent level with the nation's involving comparative advantage as well as long-run self-sufficiency consideration."

The government has also decided on several measures during the period up to July 1985, "in view of the continuing high level of rice stocks in Liberia."

The current ban on commercial rice imports remains in effect, and could be lifted "only as necessary to ensure that stock levels remain at about 10,000 metric tons," the statement

said.

It said, "should the ban on rice imports be under such guidelines, licenses for rice imports will be issued through bids under a "competitive Term Tendering System."

CSO: 3400/837

LIBERIA

FOREIGN MINISTER VOWS TO ENFORCE MERIT SYSTEM

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 25 Feb 85 pp 1, 8

[Text]

Foreign Minister T. Ernest Eastman has vowed to vigorously enforce the merit system at his ministry, by employing only those personnel who have been duly trained and qualified to occupy the positions applied for.

Minister Eastman was speaking at the Foreign Ministry last Saturday during the Sixth Graduation Program of the Foreign Service Institute at which ten persons received certificates of achievements after successfully completing the six-month program.

The Foreign Minister stressed the need for qualified foreign service personnel who have some knowledge of the field, noting that only qualified personnel could ably represent Liberia and promote its image abroad.

Minister Eastman then

frowned on the attitude of some Liberians who, he said, send numerous letters of applications or recommendations for others, who have no qualification whatsoever for the position applied for.

He stressed that in future, those wanting to go into the nation's Foreign Service, must first attend and successfully complete the prescribed courses at the Ministry's Foreign Service Institute.

Minister Eastman then assured the graduates that his ministry will not hesitate to utilize their services if they are ready to put to practice the knowledge they acquired at the Institute, as an incentive to prospective students.

Speaking on behalf of his fellow graduates, Colonel Arthur D. Bedell, expressed their profound appre-

ciation to officials of the Foreign Ministry, and especially to Minister Eastman for revitalizing the Foreign Service Institute, which had been inactive for a couple of years.

Colonel Bedell noted that in past years the Liberian Foreign Institute was so active and reputable that students from other West African countries came here to study diplomacy and international relations.

He then appealed to officials of the Foreign Ministry to fully support the program so that the institute can once again attain its past standard.

Mr. Bedell further thanked the instructors and all who made the course a success, especially Father Newberry of the St. Patrick's High School for making the school's facilities available to the class for the six-month period.

The certificates were given to the graduates by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Christopher Minikon.

CSO: 3400/837

LIBERIA

OFFICERS OF NDPL WOMEN'S BRIGADE INDUCTED

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 25 Feb 85 pp 1, 6

[Article by Gus D. Jaeploe]

[Text] Women can do "just as much as men for the economic, social and political development of the country," Mrs. Minita Moniba told officers of the Women's Special Brigade (WSB) of the National Democratic Party of Liberia over the weekend.

Mrs. Moniba, wife of the Vice President of the Interim National Assembly (INA) made the statement when she installed officers of the WSB at the Providence Island in Monrovia.

Mrs. Moniba cautioned the officers that "this is the first time women are attempting to show that they can fit within the "political machinery" of a party in this country, and for this, I must commend you very highly for this bold step."

Mrs. Moniba who performed the ceremony last Saturday praised

the Standard Bearer of the NDPL, Dr. Samuel K. Doe and other officials of the party for the "opportunity afforded women to participate in the political process of the country."

Introducing the program earlier "partisan" Evelyn S. Mahsuo described the event as a historical occasion which will give to all women of this nation a renewed happiness coupled with a sense of purpose, dedication and a new direction under the banner of the pending landslide victory of the NDPL in this coming October elections.

In her inaugural address, Miss Jeannet Waylee stressed the need to uplift the standard of Liberian women, most of whom are unlettered and have minimal exposure to the principles of democracy, equality

and justice.

Miss Waylee who described Monrovia as a "tribal melting pot of Liberia," said that the WSB will embark upon studies and programs to identify the social needs of the women of Liberia, finding solutions as to how these needs can be best fulfilled in the Second Republic, and getting women more involved in technology and business enterprises.

She stressed that WSB will also engage in literacy programs at the various market places, beginning with Rally Time Market and embark upon intensive sports programs which will involve competitions among the various areas of Monrovia, and later the entire nation.

In remarks, the National Chairman of the NDPL, Mr. Kekura Kpoto, thanked the Women's Special Brigade for forming such a powerful and useful force in the party. He said that women are like "salt" once it is not in the soup, people

have no taste for the meal.

He noted that people who were once sitting on the fence with suspicious minds are now active members of the party. Mr. Kpoto then reiterated that NDPL only seeks the soul of the people and not through the methods of threat, fear and pressure.

The fourteen officers installed were: Jeannet Waylee, Chairlady; Evelyn Mahsuo, vice chairlady; Anita R. Korneth, secretary general; Laurice Reeves, publicity chairlady; Cefanie Sesay, treasurer and Eva Youboty, special assistant to the chairlady and chairlady of the financial committee.

Others were; Gbolu Seba Sesay, co-ordinator; Fata Samuels, deputy coordinator; K. C. Kaba, asst. co-ordinator; Pauline Cooper, financial secretary; Helen K. Gayflor, chaplain; Eunice M. R. Campbell asst. chaplain and Mata Edith Sherman, advisor to the chairlady.

CSO: 3400/837

LIBERIA

BRIEFS

ARAB PRINCE VISITS--Prince Khalid Altajir of the United Arab Emirates arrived in Monrovia Saturday morning for a one-week visit to Liberia as guest of the National Investment Commission (NIC). The Chairman of the National Investment Commission, Mr. Trohoe Kparghai told reporters Saturday that during Prince Altajir's visit here, he would explore investment possibilities in the country. Mr. Kparghai said the Prince who will be accompanied by a four-man delegation of businessmen will also hold discussions with the Minister of Finance, Commerce, Foreign Affairs, Information and the Governor of the National Bank. He said the Prince will also meet with the Head of State before leaving for home. [Text] [Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 11 Mar 85 p 6]

CSO: 3400/837

MOZAMBIQUE

JOURNALIST REPORTS ON SITUATION, SPEAKS TO FOREIGN WORKER

Gweru MOTO in English No 32, Mar 85 pp 15-17

[Text]

MARCH 16th, 1984: President Samora Machel of Mozambique — his government reeling from the combined effects of drought, war, famine and bankruptcy — had just signed an unprecedented peace accord with South Africa, on the banks of the Nkomati River that forms the border between the two countries, and the Mozambican delegation was heading back to Maputo. I was on that train, having just covered the strangely incongruous signing ceremony between the two long-time enemies, and the memory of that two-hour-long journey is still with me. At every little station along the route, crowds stood on the platform, cheering and waving placards proclaiming, "Forward with the socialist policy of peace!"

There was a feeling of relief in the air: Mozambique had, in the words of ANC President Oliver Tambo, "hugged the hated hyena", but in return hoped to win an end to the relentless war waged by the Mozambique National Resistance movement. Peace and prosperity seemed so near.

Nearly a year later, when I returned to Mozambique to see how the Nkomati Accord was working out in practice, peace and prosperity seemed further away than ever before. That same railway line to the South African border has been repeatedly sabotaged, and cars and buses routinely attacked on the road. The MNR has infiltrated the southern province of Maputo, previously unscathed by war, and the capital has been blacked out seven times over the past three months by MNR saboteurs. In mid-January, the MNR shot and killed two British citizens near the very spot where the much-vaunted agreement was signed.

The MNR has gained a reputation for committing atrocities, such as the severing of victims' ears, noses and breasts, but since the

Nkomati Accord, they have developed a variety of new tactics. When arms and ammunition stocks run low — in between periodic re-supplies, in violation of the agreement — rural residents are butchered with knives and bayonets. While the vast majority of the MNR's victims have been black Mozambicans, white foreigners, the aid workers known in Portuguese as "cooperantes", have now been singled out as specific targets. In December, eight East German and Yugoslavian cooperantes were ambushed, shot, bayoneted and burned to death as they travelled to work, via convoy, at the Unango state farm in the northern province of Niassa, and an attack on the Maputo-Swaziland road took the lives of 11 people, including a Swedish cooperante and a Portuguese citizen.

"It's not easy — we feel like we're abandoning those people up there, and our work," sighed Donna McDonald, a Canadian cooperante who left Niassa with her family after the December killings. "On the other hand, there's nothing to be gained by staying there and being hurt ourselves. Every time a cooperante is hurt, aid agencies get nervous and start withdrawing people."

There is little doubt in the minds of most observers, from Western diplomats to front-line state leaders, that South Africa is violating the accord; the question is why?

Some analysts attribute continued support for the MNR to a split in the Pretoria government, between the diplomats, who favour détente, and the military, which felt that its destabilization policy should not be abandoned overnight.

"I think that the South Africans decided that a certain level of MNR activity would be a useful pressure on the Mozambican government to open up its links more closely with South Africa," said Dr. Robert Davies,

a researcher with Maputo's Centre for African Studies. "The South Africans want the openings which have been created for private investment to represent a decisive strategic shift on the part of Frelimo, rather than a tactical retreat. The ultimate goal is to link Mozambique into the South African economy in a way which subordinates it."

In mid-January, the South Africans got a signal that they were going too far: the United States announced a grant of US\$1 million worth of "limited, non-lethal" military assistance. It was also a signal to the Mozambicans that, in the words of the US State Department, America hoped to "encourage a policy of real non-alignment" in a country with which it is involved in a "growing relationship".

America's huge grain surpluses and Mozambique's drought- and war-induced famine have combined to make the US Mozambique's top food aid donor. Mozambique has finally been removed from the US black list of development aid (Angola and Tanzania remain on it), and has received its first small (US\$8 million) but strategic grant — tied specifically to the development of Mozambique's underdeveloped private sector.

Potential Western investors are very encouraged by what they see as Mozambique's rapprochement with the West since the signing of the Nkomati Accord. Mozambique has now joined the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, renegotiated its debts with the Paris Club and published a new investment code.

Yet the first and only major business deal to be signed between South Africa and

Mozambique since Nkomati is the formation of "Mozatour Ltd.", a joint venture of Mozambique's government tourist company and a small Afrikaaner businessman named Johnnie Henn, who is also the mayor of the border town of Komaatipoort. With the South African economy in the midst of the worst recession since the 1930s, and bankruptcies and interest rates skyrocketing, small business interests in the eastern Transvaal see their salvation in the opening up of new markets in Mozambique.

"I'm sure that everything in Mozambique will turn to the better within the next year or two," said Mayor Henn confidently, in an interview in Inhaca. "Then you must be in Mozambique, and ready to benefit, or you'll be too late." An island in the Indian Ocean off the coast of Maputo, Inhaca is untouched by MNR activity and thus the only resort ripe for development by "our.

The big South African corporations and the multi-nationals are also poised to invest in Mozambique's dormant tourist industry and vast wealth of natural resources, and Lonrho has signed a letter of intent with the government to develop a series of beach resorts. But, like so many other potential investors, aid agencies and governments, most are taking a wait-and-see attitude due to the desperate security situation.

It is a sad and telling commentary that the few dozen South African tourists in Inhaca, flown by private plane direct from Transvaal, represent the only concrete result of the Nkomati Accord — which was supposed to rejuvenate the battered Mozambican economy with a flood of investment — while on the mainland across from this island, the war rages on. □

Schade: 'Things Only Got Worse After Nkomati'

[Interview with Ernst Schade by Julie Frederikse]

Frederikse: How long were you in Mozambique and under what auspices?

Schade: I came to Mozambique in 1980. In October 1981 I went up to Angonia as the Director of the Tete Branch of the National Project of Cooperatives and Small Farmers Regional Centre for Development and Experimentation. The idea was to improve the standard of living of farmers by small means. I was employed by the Mozambican government and the project is supported by the Scandinavian countries.

Frederikse: Why is the Angonia Province so important?

Schade: Angonia is the high plateau district and very fertile; heavy rains also fall in the area and the population is keen on agriculture. Production is high in Angonia and there is always a surplus. So, Angonia is the most fertile place in the country and the most important.

Frederikse: When did the trouble start in the area?

Schade: Trouble started when the capital city in Tete became isolated from the rest of the province. The whole hinterland became blocked and is not functioning anymore. Angonia supplied the southern part of the country. When the MNR

started to attack the road from Tete to Angonia, this caused problems, because when this road got blocked, Angonia became cut-off and isolated.

Frederikse: Surplus — what happens to it?

Schade: Some was transported to Tete on private initiative; part was bought by the population in Tete who came on their own risk, but at blackmarket prices; part was transported by the government, but the government got into problems because it managed to only get the goods to Tete, where it spoiled because they were unable to move the goods on to Beira.

Frederikse: Did some of the surplus go out of the country?

Schade: Some surplus went out of the country because Angonia is a border town — 20–30 kilometres from Malawi — and the people market their products in Malawi in exchange for consumer goods. The people want to exchange for consumer goods because the Mozambican money is not worth anything and doesn't improve their standard of living, and consumer goods became scarce in the province.

Frederikse: Is some of the grain and food aid which comes back into Mozambique from Malawi, part of the surplus originally grown in Mozambique?

Schade: Yes, because western European countries began to buy maize from nearby spots, due to the drought-stricken Tete Province; they bought from Malawi and Zimbabwe; not South Africa because of the economical and political situation there. A lot of maize produced in Angonia, and Zambézia, was transported illegally and sold in Malawi for dollars and perhaps is now retransported back into Mozambique as aid.

Frederikse: What changes in the war did you see occur between 1981–1984?

Schade: Before, the roads from Angonia to Tete were accessible, but in September 1982, the roads to Angonia were attacked and the problem really started. This is a well-made plan by the MNR, based on Mozambican intelligence deserters. One big guy in the beginning of 1982 defected to South Africa and took with him documents on ANC operations in Mozambique. After his defection and there were others too, MNR activities focussed on hot points and major areas. The big MNR strategy is to block roads from the major province town, to important districts like Angonia, then you starve people little by little. This was an important move and a big blow for the district.

At the end of 1983, MNR became more active in the district itself. They operate from the bush and come partly into the open — hit and run tactics. We saw attacks on the nearby second important place in the district with 24 hr notice given. But no Frelimo troops took any initiative. These attacks were damaging psychologically because when government is warned and takes no action then this affects the people.

Shops have been empty since this time. There are no consumer goods because products have gone into Malawi.

Frederikse: What did you see on your recent trip back?

Schade: I went back at the end of January and what struck me most is that people have been psychologically affected by the war. Things are going down; there is no communication; people are completely isolated and there are hardly any consumer goods; hardly any petrol; hardly any seeds for last rain season and no fertilizer at all.

Also, the MNR seems to have changed their tactics. Before no atrocities were committed against the population itself. Now they invade villages, as well as attack convoys. They massacre the population. I was informed by the hospital that 192 severely wounded people were brought to hospital in the last two months and over 200 killed in the past two to three months. But the figures are not accurate because people bury their dead elsewhere.

No Frelimo structures — health, education, etc. set up by the youth — are around anymore. Frelimo has no clue as to what is happening in certain big important areas and this is true throughout the country. The MNR little by little replaces the authorities which is what they are opting for.

Frederikse: What are your observations on the situation in Mozambique since Nkomati?

Schade: The war only got worse since Nkomati; it got worse in the whole country. One could doubt what effect Nkomati has. South Africa wants to get out little by little.

Also, there are other main supporters like the Portuguese and big shots in Malawi and South Africa would like for MNR to be taken over by these other supporters.

Frederikse: There has been speculation that arms are being supplied to MNR via Malawi. Have you seen any evidence to support these claims, and who do you think is supplying MNR? What do the people think?

Schade: In Angonia there are first-hand stories from people who were at road construction camps on the Malawian border at night in the area. These people heard helicopters coming and two hours later there was a big attack on the camp; the helicopters then went off in the direction of Malawi.

People also come into the district from Malawi supplying lifelines to the MNR camps in the district. Once our domestic worker was kidnapped and forced to carry supplies to MNR by people who had come over from Malawi.

Malawi is used as a step by the main supporters of MNR. The Malawian government is not fully aware of what's happening but at the moment they are on line with South African policy. Also, Israeli intelligence is very active in Malawi. It is like a lion out of control.

Frederikse: What other direct evidence do you have to support the Malawian connection?

Schade: It was never so bad or hectic as it is now. Hardly any trucks are passing on the Tete-Angonia road. People are kidnapped to transport goods from Malawi into the drought-stricken area of Tete. Light aircrafts coming from the direction of Malawi fly over the area constantly.

At the end of December, there was an attack on a state-farm based in Angonia whose headquarters is on the Malawian border. The attack occurred during mid-day and the people escaped into the direction of Malawi.

In February of this year, the Malawi commander-general visited and denied any invasions into Mozambique, but he later had to admit in the face of so much evidence that they couldn't control the area because it is very mountainous. This area is used as a supply and invasion territory.

An important point though is that the MNR is not popular with the population.

The people are scared of them. The people avoid MNR and they avoid Frelimo; they are crushed between two elephants. But I think Frelimo has the best intention with the people.

Frederikse: What is MNR strategy? How has the war changed?

Schade: MNR now is much more focused on every single thing that moves, whereas in the past MNR focused on projects and government institutions. Hardly any cars pass now on the roads.

There is massacring and slaughtering of the villagers. They come into the villages and announce that they are MNR and that the villagers must abandon Frelimo structures; they also tell the people not to go into Malawi. As a warning, they kill a complete family with knives.

The people are absolutely flabbergasted and don't know how to interpret this whole thing. These indicate an enormous change in tactic.

The people in Angonia now flee to Malawi. Some are well-received by the Malawian village headmen but criticized by the Malawian party structure. The Malawian government is resettling the Mozambicans in new constructed villages and they are also used as cheap labour force. But the people will move back into Angonia as soon as possible.

Frederikse: What did you expect? Were you nervous when you went back?

Schade: There was enormous hope when I left because of Nkomati but this has now gone. It is more difficult now to see any hope, especially among people with good intentions. The government people have slowed down too in the villages, as they see how the MNR war is gaining strength. So they do their main task and leave the rest. For our work we could no longer go to the cooperatives because they were abandoned and are in MNR areas. □

CSO: 3400/838

SOUTH AFRICA

AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SUPPORTS PARLIAMENTARY VOTE TO BLACKS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Mar 85 p 12

[Article by Janine Stein]

[Text]

THE Government should announce its intention to grant the parliamentary franchise to Blacks, the American Chamber of Commerce in South Africa has said in a memorandum submitted to the Minister of Constitutional Planning and Development.

The process of negotiation towards an "appropriate political formula" for South Africa would also have to include leaders or organisations now operating in exile, the memorandum says.

"Amcham accordingly believes that the organisations in question should be legalised and that leaders thereof now in prison or in exile should be granted an amnesty, subject to their agreement to participate in lawful democratic procedures and to dissociate themselves from violence."

The American disinvestment campaign against South Africa had to be fought from within the United States and cannot be won from South Africa, the presi-

dent of the American Chamber of Commerce (Amcham) in South Africa, Mr Frank Lubke, who gave details of the Amcham memorandum yesterday said.

Mr Lubke said yesterday the disinvestment campaign was taken "very seriously" by Amcham, which was committed to relaying relevant information to parent companies in America to help them fight disinvestment.

The Amcham memorandum was sent almost two weeks ago by Amcham to the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis, "with the intention of making a constructive contribution to the process of policy formation". Mr Lubke said.

The memorandum, which was followed by an invitation by the minister to send an Amcham delegation to a special Cabinet committee, includes submissions on specific policy issues such as urbanisation and influx control; democratic participation and negotiation and consultation.

Amcham's memorandum, which Mr Lubke said was prepared over a period of months after discussions with a number of prominent people, was also released in America yesterday.

The document urges the Government to phase out influx control, forced removals, the migratory labour system and to introduce freehold rights for urban Blacks. It also recommends the opening of central business districts to traders of all races, the removal of petty restrictions inhibiting both formal and informal business development within the Black townships and the rejection of a Welgemoed Commission proposal to restrict minibus taxis competing with rail or bus services.

The policy of denationalising Black people should also be abandoned, the memorandum says.

While calling for representation in the legislature of all adults regardless of race, Amcham said it was not in a position "to prescribe how this should be effected". "We are convinced however, that South Africans will ultimately devise a solution acceptable to the great majority of the country's population," the report says, adding that such negotiations were a matter of urgency.

On a local government level, Amcham strongly recommends a clear statement by the Government to dispel the myth that Black local authorities are a substitute for Black political rights at other levels.

CSO: 3400/861

SOUTH AFRICA

TWUSA TO FIGHT FOR BLACK SECURITY GUARDS

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 22 Mar 85 p 13

[Article by Nkopane Makobane]

[Text]

THE Transport Workers' Union of South Africa, an affiliate of the Trade Union Council of South Africa, is fighting to end the "slave labour conditions" of black security guards.

According to *Labour Mirror*, a journal of Tusa, workers are currently required to work a 72-hour week for a maximum wage of only R231,83 a month.

Security guards in the Newcastle area earn R153,83 a month — less than 50c an hour — and women are being employed in King William's Town for R60 a month, or little more than 19c an hour.

The journal further says black workers in the industry are subject to a 1981 Wage Board determination due to be reviewed this year. The union has written to the Minister of Manpower urging him to intervene.

"I fail to understand how the former Minister of Manpower (Mr S P Botha) could have put his signature to a document which lays down such primitive working conditions," says Ms Emily Cameron, the union official leading the workers' campaign for fairer treatment.

"It is blatantly discriminatory and supports the worst allegations made by South Africa's detractors. White security workers are required to work only 48 hours a week.

"We cannot see any possible justification for claiming that a black worker must work longer hours than his counterpart. Despite the pitiful wages called for by the agreement, workers are continuously being short-changed.

"Employers give them the responsibility of security guards but call them "watchmen" to justify paying the lowest possible wages.

"In some cases they have R46 a month deducted for their hostel accommodation — which is a cement slab in a crowded room — and have to pay their own fares to and from wherever they are put on duty. We have had cases where a man's transport costs have come to more than R100 a month.

"It is not uncommon for some of them to have to spend an additional six hours a day commuting to and from their assignments. This can mean leaving their hostels at 4am and returning as late as 10pm — missing all meals.

Duty

Once on duty they are not allowed to leave their posts. We have had guards summarily dismissed for going to the toilet, sheltering from the elements or visiting a nearby cafe to buy food. The nett result is that these workers end up with a pitiful R50 or R60.

"Some of the larger employees have a more responsible approach and pay transport costs and subsidise the hostel accommodation."

Ms Cameron says Tusa began organising black security guards two years ago. Employers, who are organised through the South Afri-

can National Security Employers' Association (Sansea), granted the union stop-order facilities and agreed to the formation of an industrial council for the industry.

Employers' attitudes have since hardened considerably. Some of the firms with whom we have had to take up cases of maltreatment will no longer talk to us. One of the larger firms has withdrawn its stop-order facilities and we are coming up against a stone wall when we talk about an industrial council," she said.

The union maintains that workers will get a fair deal while they have to depend on Government wage determination. Wage Board hearings, it says, are too infrequent and even after a hearing it takes many months for the board's findings to become effective.

"We have written to the current Minister of Manpower urging him to dissociate his department from discriminatory conditions and poverty wages. We have suggested to him that the Government cannot afford to be a party to exploitation.

CSO: 3400/870

SOUTH AFRICA

GAZANKULU-LEBOWA COMMISSION TO END CONFLICTS

Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English 2 Mar 85 p 5

[Text]

AN ATTEMPT to reduce the long-standing tensions and conflicts between Gazankulu and Lebowa is to be made through a jointly-appointed commission, with a chairman nominated by the South African Government.

This was announced in a joint statement yester-

day by the Minister of Co-operation and Development, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, the Chief Minister of Lebowa, Dr Cedric Phatudi, and the Chief Minister of Gazankulu, Professor Hudson Ntsanwisi.

Tensions have been so high in the past that Professor Ntsanwisi last year said bloodshed would erupt if the government

continued with its plans to transfer an area of land inhabited by Shangaan-speaking people into Lebowa.

The two homelands, which in parts have interlocking boundaries, have also clashed over the allocation of hospitals and in the Bushbuckridge area the two homeland development corpora-

tions have erected separate supermarkets 5km apart.

In yesterday's statement, Dr Viljoen and the two homeland leaders said the "tension and conflict along the border between Lebowa and Gazankulu" had been discussed on Thursday.

"It was decided to set up a joint commission between Lebowa and Gazankulu under a neutral chairman with judicial experience nominated by the Minister of Co-operation, Development and Education to deal with future disputes in the border areas."

The statement appealed to people in the relevant areas to cease all violence.

CSO: 3400/847

SOUTH AFRICA

GROUP'S STAND ON RIOT COVERAGE REPORTED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 25 Mar 85 p 21

[Text] MINET, one of the country's leading insurance broking and risk management groups, has taken a bold stand against the so-called insurance "market accord" and criticised amendments to political riot cover legislation, saying that both developments are not serving the public interest.

Its latest issue of Risk, which is circulated among more than a third of the country's Top 100 companies as well as a host of smaller business undertakings, is almost entirely dedicated to these two controversial issues.

The public stand taken by Minet, which is a member of SAIBA, is the boldest taken by any insurance broking group so far.

The Minet viewpoint is taken in an editorial titled "The Great Insurance Row" by group chief executive Barry Jenkins, followed by articles explaining various attitudes to the issues involved.

Summing up the pro's and con's of a marketing accord, Jenkins says:

"If the accord is workable over time--and there must be some doubts that it will be--then it could seriously impair the cost effectiveness of the insurance programmes of many enterprises."

Mr Jenkins says this impairment may be necessary from the point of view of the financial viability of the insurers, "but there is little to suggest that the cost structures of the various companies involved in the accord are all similar, or that their underwriting experience in the industrial sector has been equally poor. The figures do, in fact, suggest otherwise."

The essence of the accord, as listed by Risk, is as follows:

--Participants may increase 'industrial and commercial fire rates' by up to 25 percent.

--Fellow participants may not compete unless the holding insurer's increase exceeds 25 percent.

--Even then, fellow participants may not offer less than the existing rate plus 25 percent.

In coming out against the 'accord', Minet says it is concerned "that the inefficiencies and inadequacies of a few insurers are being cloaked and protected by concerted action to the real detriment of the good performers and the consumers."

CSO: 3400/870

SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY POLICE REVEALS DISINFORMATION USED TO DISCREDIT SUBVERSIVES

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 21 Mar 85 p 3

[Article by Mike Aldridge]

[Text] IN A surprise admission the second-in-command of the Security Police, Brigadier Johan van der Merwe, yesterday said disinformation was used to destroy the credibility of leaders of organisations considered to be subversive.

The brigadier was being cross-examined by Mr Wim Trengrove at the Media Council hearing in Johannesburg. The council is hearing a complaint by the SA Police that The Star falsely published an article which said two security policemen had admitted involvement in a smear campaign against Dr Allan Boesak.

Dr Boesak is president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches.

Brig van der Merwe, who was standing in for General Schutte, head of the Security Police, said such tactics could be used in certain circumstances, depending on the nature of and form of disinformation, the interests of State security and the morality of the community which the security police served.

Mr Trengrove representing The Star, quoted evidence from the case of Van Heerden v the Security Police, given by Major Craig Williamson, a security police agent.

Not Interested

Brig Van der Merwe said the circles in which the influence of Dr Boesak could be lessened by such disinformation were not, however, those in which the security police were interested.

These were organisations such as the South African Council of Churches and the United Democratic Front, in both of which Dr Boesak was an important figure.

Further evidence was also led by counsel for The Star, which was a recorded conversation between the editor of The Star, Mr Harvey Tyson, the news editor and the reporters who undertook the investigation into security police involvement in the Boesak affair, with a former SA Council of Churches youth worker, Miss Di Scott.

Fabricated

The tape-recording, which involved details of an off-the-record conversation between Dr Boesak and a Star reporter, Chris Steyn, allegedly refuted a claim by counsel for the security police, that evidence relating to a conversation with two security police colonels, had been fabricated by Miss Steyn.

Mr Sam Maritz, appearing for the security police, stated during his cross-examination of Miss Steyn it was incongruous that the colonels said they would deny everything and then try to call in the head of their branch to confirm their involvement. This was because such evidence would deliver them entirely into the hands of newspaper and the public.

Miss Steyn replied that it might be inexplicable, but it was the truth. She also said she had jokingly asked if she could see the video of the taped encounter between Dr Boesak and Miss Scott.

Serious in Reply

Col Scholtz appeared to be serious in his reply that she could watch it, but said it would be better for her to do so alone. She refused this offer.

She did not think he was that serious, but also did not exclude the possibility of such a video tape existing.

Summing up his cross-examination of Miss Steyn, Mr Maritz stated the two colonels were adamant that all allegations published in The Star's report on January 25 were totally untrue.

Proceeding.

CSO: 3400/861

SOUTH AFRICA

METHODIST LEADER VOICES OPPOSITION TO DISINVESTMENT

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 26 Mar 85 pp 1, 2

[Article by Keith Abendroth]

[Text]

THE leader of Southern Africa's Methodists, the Rev Peter Storey, last night came out against disinvestment as a strategy for change.

Speaking in Pretoria, the outspoken leader of one of South Africa's largest churches called for a national convention on South Africa's future and for the release of "political prisoners" to enable them to participate in a convention.

Mr Storey warned that disinvestment could however, become an element of hope for the country's Blacks.

"Arguments about the merits or demerits of disinvestment are academic.

"If people believe in something enough and are desperate enough, they will use such a weapon and they will at least have a right to say that it is better than violent revolution," he said.

Suffering

The only way to end the apartheid and bad suffering

The only way to end the disinvestment strategy is to end it, but by talking about apartheid."

"We need to find a formula to stop the violence which is enveloping our townships.

"This violence will only come to an end if hope is given to a hopeless people and hope means a clear declaration that apartheid will be dismantled over a realistic period," said Mr Storey.

If apartheid was dismantled a formula would have to be found to cope with White fears, and such a formula could only be honoured if it had the support of the Black community.

Such a formula, said Mr Storey, could only be worked out in consultation with the Black community, which meant some form of national convention.

"A national convention is only possible through the release of political prisoners and negotiations with the liberation movements, in which a commitment to a common form of citizenship must be offered in exchange for a renunciation of violence."

He added: "I am convinced that this is the road that we must walk and our only choice is that we walk it now while most South Africans are still

alive. Otherwise it has to be trodden over the bodies of an increasing number of people caught up in the violence."

Dealing with the disinvestment issue, he said the Christian point of view always had to start with seeking to avoid unnecessary suffering for anyone.

But options for Christians, if they were going to avoid violence, were "perilously limited."

From a purist Christian point of view, the initial answer to disinvestment had to be "no" because ends did not justify means in Christian morality.

"The question remains, can Black suffering caused by disinvestment be justified if it makes a contribution to the cause of Black liberation?"

CSO: 3400/870

SOUTH AFRICA

PLANS FOR DIVESTMENT CALLED 'UNCHRISTIAN'

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 26 Mar 85 p 10

[Text]

AMERICAN moves towards disinvestment in South Africa were strongly criticised and rejected as unchristian and potentially disastrous - for the West as well as South Africa - at a specialist theological seminar in Pretoria yesterday.

Leaders of the various Christian denominations in South Africa met with economists and labour experts to thrash out attitudes towards the growing Western move towards disinvestment, at a seminar called by the C B Powell Bible Centre of the University of South Africa.

Main speakers were Professor Nic Wiehahn, chairman of the Wiehahn commission of inquiry into labour legislation and Rector of Unisa's School of Business Leadership; the Rev Peter Storey, President of the General Conference of the Methodist Church in Southern Africa; Prof John Hevins of the University of Pretoria Faculty of Theology and moderator of the Northern Transvaal synod of the Nederlandse Gereformeerde Kerk; Prof Frans van den Bogaerde, Vice-principal of Unisa, and Prof Pieter de

Villiers, the C B Powell professor of biblical scholarship at Unisa.

Propaganda

Prof Van den Bogaerde told the meeting South Africa must face the fact that the Uitenhage incident was "a propaganda victory of no mean proportions" for the country's enemies.

Delivering the first C B Powell memorial lecture at the meeting, he said South Africans could expect "Uitenhage" to become an expression similar to "Sharpeville".

And, he said, this was all the more so because Uitenhage's trauma had taken place on the very anniversary of Sharpeville.

Backing remarks on the aspect of the Sullivan Code in the United States as related to the South African situation, Prof Van den Bogaerde said the code in labour relations coincided with the policies of the Reagan Administration.

Negate

"If the disinvestment campaign mooted against

South Africa is successful this would negate the possibility of Sullivan Code having any more impact.

"By its very nature disinvestment would mean the withdrawal of overseas companies from this country.

"And with this would disappear the good influence of this code through these companies."

In other words the Sullivan Code in Labour relations coincided with the policy of the present American Administration of constructive engagement, he said.

Inappropriate

NGK theologian, Prof Johan Heyns, said the disinvestment policy was a completely inappropriate way of fighting racism.

"Apart from the fact that a policy of disinvestment could even strengthen the ideology and practice of racism by widening the gap between Whites and Blacks, a very interesting question arises," he said.

"This is whether or not the policy of disinvestment is not in itself a subtle form of racism -- an economic racism?"

By this he said he meant the practical inclination to overstate the values and privileges of one's own economic position at the expense of the dignity of people of other and lesser economic positions and of fellowship with them.

Prof Heyns said that the role and stand of the world church on the whole issue, against the background of free Christianity, should clearly be one of co-operation and not boycott or disinvestment.

SOUTH AFRICA

AFRIKANER ACADEMIC WARNS ECONOMY COULD SPARK REVOLUTION

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 18 Mar 85 p 11

[Text]

CAPE TOWN. -- In his outlook for South Africa's economy during the next five years, a leading Afrikaner academic has warned that the country from an economic view was destined for revolution.

Speaking at a conference at the University of Stellenbosch's Institute for Futures Research, the director of the Bureau for

Economic Research, Professor A J M de Vries, said it was unlikely the country would generate a higher average growth rate over the next five years of more than three percent a year.

"At the same time an average annual inflation

rate of very nearly 10 percent appears likely."

He said: "Given the poor growth and inflation performance of the past 10 years and taking into account projected population growth and the number of new entrants into the labour market,

these figures are disturbing."

"In fact, this could be a classical recipe, from an economic point of view, for social and political upheaval."

Prof De Vries said that to ensure a better growth performance, the country's economic situation needed a careful, clear and "rather radical" examination. — Sapa.

CSO: 3400/849

SOUTH AFRICA

WORKERS FIRED AFTER STAGING SOLIDARITY STRIKE

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 Mar 85 p 2

[Text]

A TOTAL 450 workers have been fired from the Blackheath Plant of Continental China in the Cape for going on a solidarity strike with their colleagues who were dismissed about six months ago.

The dismissals bring to 1 100 the people dismissed by the company within the last six months. About 650 were fired from the Rosslyn plant near Pretoria late last year after they had gone on strike over demands for better pay.

Mr Bill Paverd, the company's managing director, yesterday told **The SOWETAN** that management would not re-employ the 450 workers without a declaration

from the South African Allied Workers' Union (Saawu) that once employed, the people will perform their duties. And Saawu, he added, has refused to enter negotiations before all the dismissed workers are reinstated.

The Blackheath employees' strike follows management's refusal to meet the demands for a minimum wage of R2 per hour and the immediate reinstatement of the Rosslyn workers. A meeting to discuss the two issues with Saawu ended in a deadlock last week.

None of the Saawu officials could be reached for comment. The company was to hold a further meeting late yesterday.

CSO: 3400/870

SOUTH AFRICA

CASH DRAIN DANGERS OUTLINED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 26 Mar 85 p 10

[Text]

LABOUR and business leadership expert professor Nic Wiehahn said in Pretoria yesterday that disinvestment of American capital and expertise could in South Africa have disastrous consequences, not only for the Republic, but for the West as well.

Prof Wiehahn said disinvestment appeared to contradict the entire Sullivan code of conduct.

But one of the most dire consequences of disinvestment in the context of the East-West conflict situation would be the diminishing role of American influence in Southern Africa.

"Not only would this be dangerous for the West, but it also ignores an important point made by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

"And this is that multi-national companies of the developed and industrial world should be encour-

aged to operate in the smaller and still developing economic world.

"The reason is that these multinationals could act as important 'conduits for change' in the socio-economic and socio-political systems of most countries," he said.

In fact, the contribution which multinationals could make to education, economic and social upliftment of the people of the host country was one of the main objectives of the OECD.

Disinvestment from South Africa would leave a vacuum which would certainly be filled.

"And we need to speculate much, within the context of West-East relations, who and what will roll into that gap."

"Not necessarily a direct Russian influence, but certainly an influence of not a very pro-American or Pro-Western European kind," Prof Wiehahn said.

CSO: 3400/870

SOUTH AFRICA

PRESSURE EXERTED TO BOYCOTT SPAR STORES

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 11 Mar 85 p 3

[Text] **INTERNATIONAL and local organisations are putting pressure on the W G Brown group, sole owners of the Spar franchise in South Africa, to reinstate 143 workers dismissed from Spar supermarketers in Durban and Pietermaritzburg four months ago.**

The workers went on strike in December last year in support of demands for union recognition and higher wages. Talks between the Spar and the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (CCAWUSA) broke down and the workers were summarily dismissed.

CCAWUSA has called for a boycott of all Spar outlets and other subsidiaries of the Brown Group throughout South Africa and the dismissed workers have been mounting pickets at Spar supermarkets since December.

Knowles outlets and Pichdens in Hillcrest are not affected by the boycott.

Union members have been visiting W G Brown's customers, especially shopkeepers in the townships, urging them to cut ties with the group until the dispute is settled to the satisfaction of the dismissed workers.

The workers have also taken their plight to churches, appealing for support from congregations at services.

Thousands of stickers and pamphlets are also being distributed by the union at bus ranks and meetings. Various political, sport and community organisations have pledged their support for the workers.

The company has countered by issuing pamphlets

to customers telling them about the "true facts" behind the strike.

The general secretary of the International Union of Food and Allied Workers' Association (IUF), Dan Gallin, said in a letter to Mr A R MacLean, W G Brown's executive director, this week that it was disappointing that relations between W G Brown and CCAWUSA had deteriorated.

"Calling in police who harass pickets is not conducive to building good industrial relations. No union can accept 'selective employment' of members fired in reprisal for exercising the internationally-recognised right to withhold labour in support of a grievance," Mr Gallin said.

"We urge you to meet the union and initiate a process of bargaining seriously and in good faith on recognition and other issues in dispute."

Mr MacLean complained to Mr Gallin that, in spite of "repeated requests" by his company, CCAWUSA had failed to produce an authenticated copy of their constitution indicating that membership "was open to African 'coloureds' and Indians."

"They have also failed to verify union membership among our employees," Mr MacLean said.

"Important concessions made by us in good faith were withdrawn in August 1984 following the union's continued unwillingness to meet our reasonable requests."

Mr MacLean said they were prepared to discuss selective employment with CCAWUSA if the union would accede to the company's "reasonable request."

CSO: 3400/870

SOUTH AFRICA

MURRAY & ROBERTS EARNINGS DROP EXPECTED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 25 Mar 85 p 21

[Article by Don Wilkinson]

[Text]

COVERING many sectors of the economy, from consumer goods through to building and civil engineering and with a useful international coverage, conglomerate Murray & Roberts expects its earnings for the year ended next June to be around 30 percent lower than in 1983-84.

This is something of a contrast to the indication in the annual report last September that earnings for the current year would not be "materially different" from the 243c a share reported for 1983-84, from which the dividend totalled a 3.2 times covered 77c a share.

It may also come as something of a surprise to those who last week raised the share price to 1 225c on Friday from the 1 100c with which it began the week, putting its historic dividend yield at 6.3 percent, well below the return on the JSE's industrial holding sector index of 7 percent.

On the other hand, as M & R point out in the

interim statement now released, the fall-off in industrial activity in the half-year to December was "significantly greater" than had been generally expected, and it's likely to continue in the current half-year.

The brief figures attached to the interim report show the taxed operating profit at R25.16-million, down 26.6 percent on the comparable R34.33-million, before a little changed R6.5-million (R6.72-million) for outside interests and pref dividends, leaving R18.66-million (R27.61-million) attributable to the equity.

To this is added R771 000 (R434 000) of surplus on the sale of fixed assets and investments, making for earnings a share of 74c (108c), down 31.5 percent, and thus already in line with the forecast for the year as a whole.

M & R says that the majority of its interests were adversely affected by the recession -- and confirm this by showing that its share of associated companies' earnings in the period fell to R5.74-

million from R7,53-million, or about 24 percent.

Thus the industrial companies operated at lower levels than a year ago, and though the construction group performed satisfactorily, new business is fiercely competitive and scarce into the bargain.

Internationally, however, conditions were better, and showed an improvement: in this connection, M & R policy is to cover all forex risks forward, and was followed during the half-year.

Some indication of the stresses and strains under which the group was operating is given by the board's references to a fall-off in the receipts of advance payments on contracts and delays in the finalisation of claims on several major contracts.

These factors, together with tax payments to Inland Revenue and considerable takeover activity, pushed M & R's borrowings up by a whopping R101-million, bringing them to a gross R175-million or so, at a time when local interest rates are crippling many other organisations.

One result is that the group's reserve borrowing capacity at end-December had shrunk to R139-million from R213-million at end-June, 1984,

while secured but unused facilities exceeded R87-million.

Nevertheless, group acquisitions in the period came to virtually R50-million and included 100 percent of Carborundum Universal South Africa, renamed Cumar, together with the 29 percent not already owned of Broseal Holdings, now retitled M & R Light Industries.

Additionally, M & R increased its stake in an unnamed overseas company, took over Swift Engineering Works, which makes trailer axles, and bought 100 percent of Machine Timbers of Durban.

On the basis of the forecast fall in attributable earnings, M & R could produce something in the region of 160c to 170c for the year as a whole, enough to cover a repeated 77c a share total somewhat over twice, and thus a far cry from the three times plus to which shareholders have become accustomed over the last seven years.

Bearing in mind the medium term prospects for the construction industry and consumer spending, and the sharp increase in group indebtedness, the share at its current level lacks appeal to any but the long-term investor.

CSO: 3400/870

SOUTH AFRICA

DISCRIMINATION SPARKS MAJOR MINING MANPOWER CRISIS

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 22 Mar 85 p 6

[Text]

THE South African mining industry is in the middle of a major manpower crisis, which is the result of racial discrimination.

This is the analysis of the country's experienced mine personnel and black trade unionists who feel that South Africa's most enduring labour anachronism — job reservation — should be scrapped.

They feel that the elimination of the phenomenon will result in blacks — the majority of whom are discriminated against in the mines — getting more meaningful jobs and thus cutting down on manpower shortage.

The stage has been set for a real life drama in the mining industry this year, and the cast includes the country's largest and fast-testing black trade union, the most hard-line white union, the Chamber of Mines and the Nationalist government.

The 110 000-strong National Union of Mineworkers served notice on January 16 this year that it was preparing to put the colour-bar issue on the bargaining table during April and if

necessary take industrial action.

The primary thrust of its campaign would be aimed at the Chamber of Mines, whom it has accused of dragging its feet and not being serious about its stated intention of eliminating mining apartheid.

NUM's general secretary Mr Cyril Ramaphosa said that his union was not invited in talks between the chamber and the unions in an attempt to get rid of apartheid in the mines.

This, he added, was despite the fact that blacks comprised the majority and most exploited group in the mines. The shortage of manpower in the mines has caused concern in South Africa resulting in mine bosses recruiting striking British mine-workers.

The recruitment of British miners has been condemned by most black trade unions, including the Black Allied Mining and Construction Workers Union, on grounds that blacks were not utilised to get better positions and hence better pay in the mines, and yet foreigners were paid more.

The Chamber of Mines last year started talks with 12 mining industry unions aimed at reaching an agreed formula to present to the Government for the scrapping of statutory job reservation.

The hassle is reaching an agreement with established unions, especially the all-white Mineworkers Union under the conservative Arrie Paulos, which can see little benefit in signing away the traditional rights of its members.

Ultimately, the Government has the final say in changing the law, but has said it is not going to initiate change until there is agreement within the industry.

The origins of this tale go back to the days of Paul Kruger's South African Republic when key jobs underground were reserved for white miners. Job reservation has been entrenched by legislation since 1911 and was bolstered through the years by political clout of white labour.

But change seemed imminent when the sixth report of the Wiehahn Commission was tabled in Parliament in 1981.

Today, almost four years later, about 13 skilled job categories -- including the crucial right to obtain an underground blasting certificate -- are still reserved for "scheduled persons" who, by definition, cannot be black.

Dangers Outlined

In his latest chairman's statement to the shareholders of East Rand Proprietary Mines (ERPM) and Durban Roodepoort Deep, he says it is hoped that employees can resolve this problem without Government intervention, but if an agreement is not reached shortly, such intervention could be unavoidable.

A Spokesman for Anglo American, owners of most gold and coal mines in South Africa, said that they were committed to scrapping job reservation in all mines owned by the company.

For this reason, the spokesman added, the company has embarked

on a scheme of training blacks for senior positions. Most black miners underground do the job that's supposed to be done by whites, including preparing explosives for blasting.

The Wiehahn Commission's basic recommendation was that the Mines and Works Act be amended to replace the racial definition of "scheduled person" with a non-racial definition of "competent person."

The Government accepted the recommendation, but handed the issue back to the mining industry to sort out among themselves -- with the provision that agreement be reached

within "reasonable time."

Since then there has been lack of progress towards the scrapping of job reservation in the mines.

The chairman of the gold and uranium division of Rand Mines, Mr Clive Knobs, says that the country has an acute shortage of skilled workers, and it is for this reason that the majority of skilled white workers need not fear for their future.

He says however, unless opportunities are provided for inevitably trained and qualified black workers to progress, the future for all could be very bleak.

SOUTH AFRICA

STRIKING MINERS RETURN TO WORK

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 25 Mar 85 p 3

[Article by Joshua Raboroko]

[Text]

MOST of the 42 000
black miners on strike at
the world's largest gold-
mine, Anglo American's
Vaal Reefs, yesterday
started returning to
work while the National
Union of Mineworkers
has warned management
not to involve police in
the labour dispute.

Anglo's spokesman
said that the morning
shift reported and the
situation was back to
normal and calm follow-
ing last week's outbreak
of violence.

About 42 000 mem-
bers of the NUM
downed tools last Thurs-
day and continued their
industrial action on Fri-
day over pay and a num-
ber of other issues, in-
cluding the dismissal
and recognition of shaft
towards and a shaft
teward agreement.

However, the NUM
as said that 35 of their
members were shot and
wounded when police

clashed with them at the
mines, but a spokesman
for the police directorate in Pretoria, Lt A J
Beck, said police used
teargas to disperse the
workers.

The NUM has
warned management
not to involve the police
in the matter and said
chaos might erupt if the
police presence was con-
tinued, according to a
statement to The SO-
WETAN.

Management was ex-
pecting the rest of the
labour force to return to
work today - thus end-
ing the industrial action
which management
claimed was marred by
intimidation.

Miners, who had
been working only half
shifts before downing
tools, had continued
their strike while man-
agement was engaged in
talks with the unions.

CSO: 3400/870

SOUTH AFRICA

INDIAN FARMERS SUFFERING FROM GROUP AREAS ACT

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 14 Mar 85 p 4

[Text]

HOUSE OF DELEGATES. — Indian farmers were being treated as "sucked oranges" although they had saved Natal's agriculture from economic ruin, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, chief minister of the House of Delegates, said.

Supporting a private motion brought before the House by Mr Soobramoney Naicker, leader of the House, calling on the Government to remove fort with all racial restrictions pertaining to all facets of agriculture and farming, he said the

Group Areas Act had squeezed out Indian farmers.

But his National Peoples' Party, the majority group in the House, would strive to restore what "our peasants" had lost.

"Agriculture is an 'own affair', but our efforts to restore Indian agriculture to its past glories can be thwarted by Group Areas," he said.

Speaking to his motion earlier, Mr Naicker said that although Indians had been pleased with Kwa-Zulu land consolidation and development, there

was concern that some Indian agricultural land had also been lost to Kwa-Zulu.

Mr George Thayer (NPP, nominated), said that if Indians were to show their mettle once again as astute agriculturists, the Group Areas Act, the main stumbling block, had to be repealed.

He said Indians had been originally brought from India to work on the farms of Natal and they would do it again once impediments placed through Group Areas were removed, he said.

'White Farmers Can't Meet All SA's Food Needs'

HOUSE OF DELEGATES. — The Minister of Own Affairs of Housing and Agriculture in the House of Delegates, Mr Baldeo Dookie, said agricultural land should be freed from the Group Areas Act.

Speaking to a motion calling for this, Mr Dookie said the Indian chamber intended ensuring that agricultural lands

was free of Group Areas laws.

"Why must people who want to produce food not be allowed to do so?"

White farmers alone could not meet the agricultural needs of the country. All race groups would have to work together if the food needs of South Africa were to be met by the year 2 000.

The lack of agricultural land had forced the Indian farming community not to get more involved in agriculture, and it was not their fault, Mr Dookie said.

The small gardens around Durban had been destroyed and the "green belts" had been replaced with roads, he said.

CSO: 3400/849

SOUTH AFRICA

KWAZULU FASTEST GROWING DEVELOPMENT POINT IN NATION

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Mar 85 p 10

[Text] ISITHEBE, KwaZulu as a development point, has the highest growth rate in South Africa, Dr P J van der Merwe, Director General of Manpower said yesterday afternoon.

Opening the training centre of Interco Management Services at Isithebe, Dr Van Der Merwe said that the area had been receiving substantial decentralisation benefits over the past two years.

"At the moment, it is the development point with the highest growth rate in the Republic, as can be deduced from the statistics for the period April 1 1982 to March 31 1983 and April 1 1983 to March 31 1984."

Dr Van Der Merwe said that from the period April 1 1982 to March 31 1983, the number of applications for decentralisation benefits at Isithebe was 105 out of a total of 453 in the Republic.

In the same period the number of expected job opportunities at Isithebe were 18 410 out of a total of 43 122 in the Republic.

The expected capital investment in the area was R158-million out of a total of R1 104-million for the rest of the Republic.

He said that from the period April 1, 1983, to March 31, 1984, the number of applications for decentralisation benefits in the area were 43 out of a total of 705 for South Africa.

The number of expected jobs was 7 985 out of total of 48 978 in South Africa.

The expected capital investment in the area would reach R98-million out of a total of R725-million for the rest of the country.

He said there were favourable decentralisation benefits at Isithebe for which an industrialist could apply to the Decentralisation Board.

Labour, although untrained, was readily available and the proximity of the market especially for entrepreneurs in the clothing industry.

There was also the factor of the proximity of a favourable distribution point for other markets.

Dr Van Der Merwe said the clothing industry employed a massive labour force.

He said the responsibility to train these workers rested primarily with the individual employers.

"They have to train their workers to perform specific tasks effectively in the pursuit of higher productivity and profits. This profit motive should at all times serve as the prime motivation to train employees."

He said he could well imagine that the management of the host company had spent many hours debating certain issues before it was decided to establish the training centre.

Dr Van Der Merwe said: "I believe that employers organisations within the various industries can play the role to facilitate training within an industry.

CSO: 3400/86^

SOUTH AFRICA

CLOSURE OF NEWSPAPERS DEPLORED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 18 Mar 85 p 6

[Editorial: "Death of Papers"]

[Text]

THE CLOSURE of the Rand Daily Mail and Sunday Express is a cause for great sadness. The Mail was the leading liberal newspaper in South Africa, with a fine tradition going back 83 years.

The Express was the leading investigative newspaper.

Each contributed to the breadth of discussion that is necessary if South Africa is to be served effectively by its Press.

Each will be missed.

Of the two, the Mail played a more significant role, taking up the cudgels for the Blacks at a time when it was not fashionable or politic to do so, calling for various changes in the South African racial set-up that seemed radical then, but are no longer so.

The pity is that the Mail also won for itself a reputation for Left-wing extremism that not only lost it readers, but also denied it the acceptance it might otherwise have had.

Although we differed from it on many issues, we respected it as a newspaper of integrity; although we were directly in competition with it, we regret that it will die such an untimely death.

In the case of the Sunday Express, the emphasis on investigative journalism alienated rather than attracted readers, but the Express served a most worthwhile purpose in bringing light to dark corners of public life.

Our assessment of its role is not diminished because of its disgusting and libellous attack on The Citizen yesterday.

We are sorry the Express did not bow out with the dignity the occasion deserves, but announced its own demise with such an intemperate outburst.

There will be much discussion in the newspaper industry about the reasons for the death of the two newspapers.

The Star's attack on the Sunday Express, the Sunrise Star's attack on the Mail's Saturday market, and cut-price property advertising by the Argus newspapers played a part.

But the same tactics used in Cape Town and Durban by Argus company newspapers did not finish off opposing newspapers in these cities.

Furthermore, although newspapers are suffering severely from the inroads of television on newspaper advertising, this was not the main factor in the closure of the Mail and Express, since other SAAN publications have not closed.

The reasons must be sought elsewhere — and the Sunday Express provided the answer when it said that the two papers had been closed down because they had failed the test of the market place. "It makes no difference because they failed in the market place of ideas before they failed economically. Indeed, it was in the areas of ideas that the battle was fought and lost."

This is a strange admission from an editor who is going to be in charge of SAAN's new national business daily.

However, it is an assessment with which we agree.

The writing on the wall for the Mail came when The Citizen overtook its White readership and the huge preponderance of Black readers of the Mail made it cost-inefficient for certain important categories of advertising.

The writing on the wall for the Express came

when its declining sales made it unattractive for categories of advertising in which it had previously excelled.

Be that as it may, the death of the two newspapers is a great tragedy, not just for the industry in which they played a distinguished part, but for all South Africans who value having newspapers of such diverse outlook that the debate on South Africa's future is enhanced.

The public should have as wide a range as possible of newspapers from which to choose, and there should be room for newspapers of courage which can voice unpopular viewpoints.

Consequently, the Press of South Africa is seriously diminished by the death of the Mail and Express, and all true journalists will mourn their passing.

CSO: 3400/849

SOUTH AFRICA

NATION'S SPORTSMEN'S RETURN TO INTERNATIONAL SPORT PROMISING

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 19 Mar 85 p 6

[Editorial]

[Text]

SPORTSMEN and women of this country have given the outside world a pledge that, in all fairness, should get them back into international sport.

If we have our doubts, in the short term, that they will, it is not because they haven't gone as far as any sports people can go — they have — but because the organisations which have had us barred from sport want such political changes in this country that no pledge will satisfy them.

Yet in a country which has been so racially minded, so racially separated, the declaration on behalf of 90 bodies covering every spectrum of sport — from rugby and cricket to snow skiing and croquet — and the two main umbrella bodies, the South African National Olympic Committee and the South African Sports Federation, is quite remarkable.

For they not only pledge themselves to eradicate all forms of racism and statutory measures inhibiting racial equality in sporting practice and facilities, but they say that "sport is also to be used as a channel of mobility and achievement for people to improve their opportunities for advancement and their quality of life".

How this is to be done is not stated, but it is interpreted as a commitment to community upliftment so that all sportsmen can begin on an equitable footing.

The declaration, among other things, pledges to create equal opportunities for all sportsmen and women irrespective of race, colour or creed; the upliftment and improvement of all communities so that everyone can compete on an equitable basis in all forms of

sport; non-racial competition in sport from school to international level, and the provisions of coaches and administrators to encourage sport at grassroots level.

Sports organisations are called upon to create sports complexes available for all, and to utilise to the maximum existing facilities, including those at schools.

We can expect that there will be opposition to mixed sport at school levels, since conservative viewpoints in some schools die hard. But times are changing and we believe the good sense shown in this declaration will gain wider support than it would have a year or two ago.

Even a man like Bishop Tutu (and heaven knows we have not heard him say anything good about this country in years) has welcomed the declaration.

So at least some of the sports boycotters should have second thoughts on the matter. Mr Rudolph Opperman, president of the National Olympic Committee, says: "If there is any fair play left in the world this (declaration) should have considerable influence in changing the existing attitudes about sporting links with South Africa."

Fair play is not something the boycotters understand, for if there were fair play, our sportsmen and women would not have been isolated.

However, the declaration shows, once and for all, that sport is becoming fully non-racial. The battle to get back into international competition will not be won with words or pledges but with concrete evidence that the declaration is being translated into action. This cannot be done overnight.

But the intent is there, and should help our friends in sport abroad to help us. We say to the sports bodies concerned: You have started something of which you can justly be proud. What you are pledged to do is of inestimable value to your fellow citizens of colour. They will benefit long before we return to international sport. But like every other worthwhile reform, what is done for our people and for our own country is of paramount concern, more so than any overseas accolades. Acceptances of your bona fides, of your genuine intentions of helping to give sportsmen and women equal opportunities on and off the field, will come in time. Of that you can be sure. Meanwhile, we give you our own commendation: Well done.

CSO: 3400/849

SOUTH AFRICA

STATE URGED TO STALL NEW COMPULSORY SCHOOL FEES

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 19 Mar 85 p 20

[Article by Keith Abendroth]

[Text]

THE SA Teachers Council — professional body of more than 50 000 registered White teachers in South Africa — has called on the State to stall implementation of the new system of compulsory school fees until a potential "minefield" of teething troubles is sorted out.

More specifically, the call is to delay the scheme until the State commission investigating the country's tax structure has completed its inquiry into additional sources of revenue.

The council has told the Cabinet that it believes that the levying of tuition fees should be seen within the wider context of all aspects of taxation.

The new system, sched-

uled to be introduced in all four provinces from next year, has aroused countrywide opposition and anger among educationists and parents — not so much because of the principle of paying more for education but the practical implications of gathering extra funds and their disbursement.

A senior headmaster told the Citizen yesterday: "I do not know of a single fellow principal who is not unhappy about the mass of extra paper work and bureaucratic complications that the scheme would certainly cause — overloading further already overloaded staff."

A spokesman for the SATC said that parent bodies and teachers organisations had expressed concern over aspects of the proposed levying of

tuition fees.

The council's committee on education financing was agreed that extra income should be generated to maintain and improve certain educational standards — provided the money came from the entire community and not only from parents.

According to Mr Fanie Schoeman, Transvaal provincial executive committee member in charge of education, the new scheme would be in addition to the existing school funds scheme — which would be retained.

He said that fees had not yet been exactly defined and no formula yet existed. But it was expected that the fee would not be more than 10 percent of the State's expenditure per child.

The SATC is determin-

ed to see that the scheme succeeds — but on the basis of sober, sound, loophole-free implementation.

The spokesman said that an interview had been requested with the Minister of National Education to discuss more specifically:

● The necessity for broad co-ordination and general acceptance of tuition fees by all groups;

● The creation of structures for such co-ordination and also to ensure that all parties be given a say;

● The importance of clearly spelling out how the proposed tuition fees were to be used; and

● The need to postpone introduction of the fees until after the completion of the inquiry into additional sources of revenue.

CSO: 3400/849

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

STUDENTS DECIDE ON ORGANIZATIONS--CAPE TOWN--The student parliament at the University of Stellenbosch has accepted that there are definite differences in the political convictions of Nusas and the University of Stellenbosch. A commission of inquiry into national student organisations found that the Afrikaanse Studentebond was the one organisation in which students of Stellenbosch felt most at home and that it was an open question whether a Nusas-affiliated body would be viable at Stellenbosch. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 21 Mar 85 p 13]

SERVICEMEN IN DETENTION--PARLIAMENT--A total of 234 National Servicemen who failed to report for or render military service on account of religious principles were serving three year sentences in Detention Barracks on December 1, 1984, the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, said. There were 378 Servicemen in detention on that date, Gen Malan said in a written reply to a question from Mr Pat Rogers (NRP, King William's Town). [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Mar 85 p 4]

CADET TRAINING--PARLIAMENT.--It was the prerogative of each population group to decide on cadet training for its boys although the Defence Act stipulated that "every person" between the ages of 12 and 17 may be required to undergo such training, the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, said. So far, cadet training had only been instituted for boys at White schools, he said, replying to questions by Mr Roger Burrows (PFP, Pinetown). [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Mar 85 p 4]

BOPHUTHATSWANA HARASSING NON-TSWANAS--BOPHUTHATSWANA is harassing non-Tswanas who have lived in the area for years, the Black Sash and South African Council of Churches charged yesterday. "There have been a number of very serious transgressions of the declaration of human rights," civil rights lawyer Mr Graham Dyson told a Press conference in Johannesburg. Since independence in 1977, both Tswanas and non-Tswanas had settled in Bophuthatswana or been moved there under South Africa's homelands legislation, the SACC and Black Sash said. However, many non-Tswanas were being increasingly victimised. "There is a widespread feeling of fear and insecurity in many areas--there is the possibility of a refugee crisis as these people move from area to area and homeland to homeland..." Mr Dyson said he was particularly concerned by the activities of the homeland's National Intelligence Force, which he said had powers of arrest and appeared to be accountable only to President Lucas Mangope. "The NIF behaves like a Gestapo hit-squad," he said. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 23 Mar 85 p 4]

'VENDA NOT ONE-PARTY STATE'-THOHOYANDOU.--Although there were no opposition members in the Venda Parliament, this did not mean that Venda was a one-party state, the President, Mr Patrick Mphephu, said yesterday. He said that since his last address to Parliament the ruling party captured all opposition seats in recent elections, making a clean sweep in Parliament. "The result is that there are at present no members in the National Assembly representing any opposition Party. "I wish to state categorically that this does not mean that Venda is now a one-party state," Mr Mphephu said. "The only significance is that Venda is a state in which one party succeeded in winning all the seats in a Democratic election." [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 23 Mar 85 p 10]

COLORED MPS NOT EFFECTIVE--HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.--Coloured Members of Parliament were not acknowledged by local authorities when matters affecting them, like housing, were discussed, Mr Desmond Locky (LP, Nominated) said. "The local authorities just continue in the old way without taking us into account," he said in support of a private members motion calling for improved communications between local management and affairs committees. The Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, Mr David Curry should hold urgent discussions with the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunies, to ensure that effective structures were brought about in which the Coloured people had a say in their own affairs. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 22 Mar 85 p 5]

ANTI-DRAFT VIEWS WANTED--CALLS for an end to compulsory military conscription in the South Africa should be addressed to the government commission studying the matter, the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, has told a former head of Cape Town University. Reacting to an anti-draft speech made by Sir Richard Luyt in Port Elizabeth last week, Gen Malan said: "It is a pity that he chose to air his theories to the Black Sash and not to the (Geldenhuys) committee". Gen Malan said Sir Richard, himself a soldier of the Second World War, would be formally invited to express his views on conscription. "I am convinced that the comparison made between the two previous world wars and the terrorist campaign on home ground could lead to many stimulating thoughts," the Minister said. He added, however, that any views expressed should be "purely military and not have a political goal". Sir Richard was quoted as telling the Black Sash meeting that he supported the concept of a professional army backed by part-time National Servicemen. South African-born Sir Richard, a former Governor of Guyana, became principal and vice-chancellor of UCT in 1968 before retiring five years ago. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 22 Mar 85 p 5]

HELICOPTER PLUNGE KILLS POLICEMAN--A Benoni Riot Squad policeman died on Tuesday afternoon when he plunged 21 m to his death from a helicopter during joint training exercises with the Air Force, and the Railway police at the Railway Police Training College in Kempton Park. Constable Theunis Jacobus Terblanche (22) had been dangling at the end of a rope underneath the helicopter and was to have been lowered gently to the ground when the rope broke. Constable Terblanche was taken immediately to the Kempton Park Hospital by helicopter, but was certified dead on arrival. He was a rugby player and represented Eastern Transvaal, which is where his parents stay. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 21 Mar 85 p 5]

18 April 1985

COMMUNICATIONS COMPLAINTS--HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.--It was time communication between local authorities, local affairs and management committees were improved and unpleasantries in the consultation process were removed, Mr Jac Rabie (LP, Reigerpark) said. Moving a private member's motion he called on the Government to expedite the implementation of the regulations which were designed to improve these communications. "We are tired of consultation. We want to consult with people who make the decisions," Mr Rabie said after he had read a letter from the Cape Town City Council in which they said they were consulting with the Executive Committee (provincial) to ensure smoother communication between the council and the Management Committee. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 22 Mar 85 p 4]

NATAL-MOZAMBIQUE FISHING AGREEMENT--CAPE TOWN.--The chief director of Marine Development of the Department of Environment Affairs in Cape Town, Dr Josua Serfontein, said yesterday agreements between the line fishermen of Mozambique and Natal have been reached. Dr Serfontein said the agreements between the two countries had been reached in spite of the problems being experienced with regards to the Nkomati Accord. Dr Serfontein said the two companies which had undertaken trawling in Mozambique waters would be able to catch 230 tons of prawns, 154 tons of rock lobsters and langoustines and 135 tons of crabs. It was possible these quotas would be increased if all went well. He warned, however that stern measures would be taken against skippers who fished in Mozambican waters without the necessary authority. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 1 Mar 85 p 10]

WOMEN BEAT NATIONAL CANDIDATES--DURBAN--The National Party (NP) took a drubbing as two of the official candidates were well beaten in Municipal elections held in the Durban area on Wednesday. In the Point ward Miss Marianne McCurdie, who backed by the Civic Action League (CAL), which is bitterly opposed to beach intergration, won with 759 votes to 412 for the NRP's Mr Joe Perkins and the NP-backed Mr Barnard Pearce could only total 335 votes. In the Woodlands-Montclair ward, Mrs Connie Gaelea polled 1 239 votes, Mr Pate Parsons, an independent polled 551 votes and Mr Vic Christoforos, the official NP candidate, 490 votes. Significantly the National Party candidates were beaten by two women who are regarded to the "right" of the NP in their thinking. The return of two women means that the "fairer sex" are now playing an important part in Municipal affairs. They comprise one third of the councilors and have Mrs. Sybil Hotz in the powerful position as chairman of the management of the council (Manco). Mr Con Botha, the Nat MP for Umlazi, said yesterday that he was "very disappointed" at the result in the Woodlands-Montclair area. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 22 Mar 85 p 15]

SACOS SLAMS SPORT DECLARATION--CAPE TOWN--The declaration of intent by South African sporting bodies, released by Eddie Barlow in Johannesburg at the weekend, was "totally pretentious and false," Mr Frank van der Horst, president of the South African Council on Sport (Sacos), said in a statement issued in Cape Town yesterday. "The nice flowery language fails dismally to address the root causes of racial discrimination in sport which is a product of the apartheid society," said the statement by the militant Black-oriented pressure group. It added: "The sports declaration has no serious intention to change the system of racial discrimination, colour oppression and class exploitation in

this country, but merely serves as a cheap and transparent means to lure overseas tours to the land of apartheid. "Sacos, as representative of the rightless Black sports persons, believes that overseas tours prop up and provide propaganda for the apartheid system, thereby giving it a longer lease of life. "Sacos rejects overseas tours while the racists' laws and oppressive institutions are on the statute books. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Mar 85 p 12]

GWUSA SLAMMED--THE director of a plastic bags manufacturing company in Pretoria, whose employees are on strike, yesterday blamed the Government of having blundered in allowing blacks to form trade unions. Mr PG Hutt, director of Pack Shur, was reacting to his employees' demands that the General Workers Union of South Africa (Gwusa) be recognised as their representative body. He said blacks took advantage of the Government's generosity and were creating new organisations daily. "I explained to my employees that they should form a committee to solve their problems internally because I am against trade unions. I am one of the pioneers in South African industry and cannot tolerate continued disruptions at this factory. Because the Government has allowed blacks to form trade unions we have a free-for-all in industry," Mr Hutt said. The striking workers told The SOWETAN that they refused to return to their posts because management was not prepared to talk to Gwusa. They also wanted their demands for better pay met. "A company official said we should stop making fools of ourselves as the trade union was interested only in our subscriptions. But this was unacceptable to us and, as a result, we told management to either meet our demands or do without us," a worker said. A Gwusa official said a meeting of workers resolved that no one should return to work unless management did away with its selective method when re-employing them. All demand that they be unconditionally reinstated and that their trade union be recognised. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 14 Mar 85 p 3]

GWUSA STRIKE--MEMBERS of the General Workers' Union of South Africa employed at the Pack Shur Plastic Manufacturing Factory in Pretoria West this week went on strike over pay demands and recognition for their union. According to Mr Joseph Oliphant, organiser for Gwusa, his organisation represented more than 60 percent of the workers who he claimed earned an average weekly wage of R28,00 for a 12-hour day. He added that trouble at the factory started on Monday morning as management refused to talk to Gwusa officials. He said, however, they eventually managed to draw company officials to a meeting where it was agreed that all the striking employees be allowed to go on with their work while negotiations continued. But, according to Mr Oliphant, that could not materialise as management wanted to select employees when they returned to work. "The act was unacceptable to us and we felt that all the people be left out until an agreement has been reached. We intend holding further talks with the company later on Tuesday," he said. The director of the company, Mr T G Hutt, was said to have been engaged in a meeting when The SOWETAN contacted his office. [Text] [Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 13 Mar 85 p 3]

SAPPI EXPANSION--SAPPI's Ngodwana expansion project, near Nelspruit in the Eastern Transvaal, achieved a further milestone this month when the kraft linerboard machine produced its first saleable linerboard. The kraft

linerboard machine is the third phase of the giant expansion project. The start-up of the machine was achieved six months ahead of the scheduled original date. The machine is designed to produce 150 000 tons annually of all grades of kraft and its capacity can later be increased to 250 000 tons a year. The kraft from this machine will primarily serve Sappi's customers in the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging area. But the kraft linerboard machine is not the only element of the Ngodwana project making the headlines. Phase I of the project--the newsprint machine, which was commissioned in September 1983--also set a production record. It produced 443 tons of newsprint during a 24-hour period on Sunday, March 17. This is 11 percent above the machine's design capacity and is thought to be a newsprint production record for South Africa. The commissioning of the kraft linerboard machine means that all three phases of the Ngodwana mill have now commenced production. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 26 Mar 85 p 23]

POLICE ACCOUNT OPPOSED--HOUSE OF DELEGATES--The House of Delegates was not willing to allow the police to have a secret funds account, Mr Ranji Nowbath, the ruling National People's Party spokesman on justice said. The House voted unanimously against the Second Reading of the South African Police Special Account Bill by supporting a motion by Mr Nowbath that the Bill be read six months hence. Mr Nowbath said he could understand the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Defence Force having secret funds accounts because they were engaged in activities against agencies outside the country. "But when it comes to the police, the public should know what happens to every cent that is spent." He said the recent events at Crossroads and Uitenhage were further evidence that the police could not be entrusted with secret funds which were not subject to the scrutiny of Parliament. Mr Pat Poovalingam (Sol Reservoir Hills) said he agreed that secret accounts should not be given to an agency which "terrorised citizens into submission." The Minister of Finance, Mr Barend du Plessis said it had always been possible for police to obtain secret funds but this Bill merely provided for better administration of the funds. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 26 Mar 85 p 4]

CSIR MANAGER TRANSFERRED--MR P J van der Westhuizen, programme manager, space and atmosphere, of the CSIR's foundation for Research Development, has been appointed scientific counsellor in Paris, the CSIR announced yesterday. Mr Van der Westhuizen replaces Dr Johan Brink, who, after a term of six years, will return to South Africa at the end of March to take up the post as head of the CSIR's international relations division. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 26 Mar 85 p 20]

APARTHEID'S BUDGETARY IMPACT--PIETERMARITZBURG--The Budget indicated that South Africa was beginning to pay the price of apartheid, Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, the leader of the Opposition, told a luncheon meeting of about 250 people in Pietermaritzburg yesterday. South Africa had been over spending for the past nine years and over the past 10 years the size of the Budget deficit had increased nine-fold and the public debt four-fold, he said. While this was the first time there had been a cut in Defence spending and an increase in money spent on education, the burden of the individual was being increased through higher GST. This had had a dampening effect on business, he said. "We need tax reform to restore private initiative and everything should be

done to stimulate the incentives for entrepreneurs in our society," Dr Slabbert said. "We also need more privatisation and the informal sector of the economy has to be positively encouraged." It was important that no group should be favoured and that the small business sector be promoted against the drift towards monopoly and big business, he added. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 27 Mar 85 p 9]

PROMOTIONS IN SAAF--Major-General H G du Plessis, chief of Air Staff Logistics in the SA Air Force, is to retire and will be replaced by Brigadier F H Bolton in April, the SA Defence Force announced yesterday. Brig Bolton will be promoted to the rank of Major-General. The SADF also said that due to cuts in expenditure, the post vacated by a Chief of Staff personnel officer, Major-General A P Roux, would not be filled for the present. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 Mar 85 p 9]

CSO: 3400/849

SWAZILAND

BRIEFS

DETENTION ORDERS RENEWED--MBABANE--Five Swazi detainees have had their 60-day detention orders renewed, relatives confirmed yesterday. Four have already been charged under Swaziland's Subversive Activities Act and are to appear in the High Court in mid-April. They are the former Commissioner of Police, Mr Titus Msibi, the former Deputy-Commissioner of Police, Mr Edgar Hilary, the former Army Chief of Staff, Colonel Mangomeni Ndzimandze, and a former army major, Abednigo Dlamini. The four were charged with allegedly holding an illegal meeting at Matsapa Police College, where they allegedly plotted to arrest the Prime Minister, Prince Bhekimp, a Cabinet Minister and two prominent members of the Supreme Council of State (Liqoqo). The fifth detainee is Dr Sishayi Nxumalo, the former Finance Minister, who was detained at the same time as the other four in January, after being held in police custody since November. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 26 Mar 85 p 12]

CSO: 3400/870

TANZANIA

BRIEFS

OIL DRILLING TO COMMENCE--Under an agreement with the Tanzanian government of March 2, three foreign oil companies will begin exploratory drilling in the Bagamayo district, on the coast 100 kilometres north of Dar es Salaam, 12,000 square kilometres, has been granted to the French state oil company Elf-Aquitaine, the Kuwaiti Foreign Petroleum Exploration Company and the International Energy Development Corporation. The cost of the exploratory drilling is estimated at between 10 million and 11 million dollars. If oil is discovered, the agreement specifies that between 70 and 85 per cent of the production will go to the Tanzanian government. I.O.N.--The IEDC and the KFPEC have already been active in this region, the first since 1981 and the second since 1984. They drilled a well at Makarawi, 150 kilometres north of Dar es Salaam. If no oil has yet been found in Tanzania, the hunt is continuing energetically. An aerial survey in the region of Lakes Victoria and Tanganyika in collaboration with Zaire, Uganda and Kenya and financed by the World Bank, ended last October. Surveys by Kenting Earth Sciences of Canada in the Lake Rukwa area northwest of Mbeya have produced positive results. Shell and Esso are prospecting in the Ruvu valley, and although one drill which was sunk last August (Ruaruke 1) was abandoned at the end of September, a new one is to be sunk before the end of the year. [Text] [Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English No 172, 9 Mar 85 p 6]

SOVIET MEDICAL AID--The Ministry of Health has received a donation comprising an assortment of hospital equipment from the Soviet Union. The equipment, to be used at the V. I. Lenin Hospital, was presented to the Ministry by Soviet Consul in Zanzibar Ndugu (Yuriy Vasilev). [Excerpt] [Zanzibar Domestic Service in Swahili 1600 GMT 26 Mar 85 EA]

CSO: 3449/4

ZAMBIA

SWEDISH COOPS OFFER AGRICULTURAL AID, ADVICE

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 2 Mar 85 p 1

[Text]

THE SWEDISH co-operative movement has promised Zambia an emergency aid package of three million grain bags and enough supplies of tyres and tubes for transporters to speed up this year's crop haulage exercise.

Chairman of the Rural Development Committee, Mr Reuben Kamanga was given this assurance in Lusaka yesterday by Mr Bengt Kjeller, leader of an eight-man delegation from the Swedish Farmers' Supply and Crop Marketing Association.

Mr Kjeller said the urgent aid request had already been conveyed to Swedish authorities and consignments of the items would start arriving before the coming marketing season.

The Swedish delegation discovered during its tour which began on February 16, and ends today, that the critical shortage of tyres and tubes posed a big threat to the anticipated bumper maize harvest.

Zambia expects to reap approximately eight million bags of maize this year, and transporters have expressed fears that they may not manage to ferry all crops to safe storage depots before the onset of rains if the shortage of tyres and tubes persists.

The Swedish assistance will be a stop-gap measure to alleviate the critical shortage of tyres and tubes which has been compounded by the temporary closure of Dunlop (Zambia) Limited.

Mr Kjeller said it was also found necessary to buy more grain bags from a country he declined to name, although Namboard had made arrangements for the purchase of 10 million bags, to ensure there was an adequate supply.

The chief beneficiary of the aid will be the Central Provin-

ce Co-operative Marketing Union (CPCMU) which the delegation lauded for doing a commendable job in spite of the weak membership.

He criticised the recent government decision to withdraw marketing functions from co-operative unions, arguing that it was cheaper to use the unions than to appoint Namboard as the sole marketing agency, because the parastatal needed more money to perform the same job.

Mr Kjeller who at one time worked in Zambia, said the co-operative movement in Zambia had grown over the years and managed to penetrate many rural areas in the country.

But limited financial resources which made it difficult for roads to be graded, was one of the constraints that had affected speedy haulage of crops from rural areas.

Mr Kamanga appealed to the Swedish to help train Zambian co-operators and provide other forms of assistance

which will prop up the co-operative movement in Zambia.

He said Zambia was aware of the vast experience Sweden had in the co-operative movement and wished to learn from her so as to strengthen local co-operatives, which would play a key role in uplifting the standard of living of rural dwellers.

The Party and its government could not provide all that the people needed, hence the importance attached to the promotion of self-reliance, particularly co-operatives.

He said criticisms of the present set-up of co-operatives was welcome as it would enable the Party and its government to make the necessary adjustments for the better.

It was also the wish of the government to give co-operatives a fair deal so that a majority of the people could benefit from their services.

Among the areas visited by the Swedish delegation were Lusaka, Central and Southern Provinces which are some of the major crop producers.

The study tour of Zambia and Tanzania was jointly organised by the Swedish Co-operative Centre, the Co-operative Union of Tanzania and the Zambia Co-operative Federation.

CSO: 3400/844

ZIMBABWE

INFORMATION SECRETARY DISCUSSES PARTY'S STANCE ON ELECTIONS

Gweru MOTO in English No 32, May 85 pp 3-4

[Interview with Nathan Shamuyarira, ZANU-PF secretary for information and publicity; date and place not specified]

[Text]

MOTO: *What do you see as the major issues for the next general elections?*

Shamuyarira: The major issue for ZANU will be to underscore the achievements of the last 5 years. We have an impressive record and the people want this work continued. The people have now made gains in education, health, social services, agriculture, industry; the army has been successfully reorganized and we have managed to attain good race relations.

The attainment of independence was the major gain for the people. The people now have power and we don't want the gains of the people to be lost; these gains must now be consolidated, and we must now concentrate on advances in the economic field. The people have political power, now they must attain economic power.

MOTO: *What will be the party's stance on economic issues, and to what extent will economic issues figure in the campaign?*

Shamuyarira: Economic independence is now the battle before us, as well as managing our economy for the benefit of the broad masses. The economy is still in the hands of foreign interests, especially in the mining industry where the control is more pronounced. We would like the economy to be controlled, managed and run by Zimbabweans. We also need to create more institutions to help move in this direction to enable people to participate more. This will be the task of the next decade.

MOTO: *To what extent do you think the party will address itself to the problem of unemployment and, has the party formulated a strategy to create more employment in Zimbabwe?*

Shamuyarira: Unemployment is a big problem which has been brought about by two things, the drought and the economic recession. Because of these factors, the job market has not expanded over the past two years. We plan to address the issue of unemployment by the establishment of more cooperatives and encouraging people to go into agriculture.

There has been some success in agriculture because peasant agriculture has improved. Last year, peasant farmers grew 40 percent of the maize and 60 percent of the cotton. Agriculture is an area of large employment opportunities for people. Also expansion of industry and commerce will provide more jobs, but this depends on total peace and stability in the country. For example, as you know, many factories in Bulawayo closed and companies went elsewhere because of the situation in the area.

any form out of the elections.

MOTO: *Does the retaining of tribal names for the provinces not reinforce the tribal divisions?*

Shamuyarira: Province names are used by the local people and this does not encourage tribalism. We don't achieve anything by denying what a person is; we have this multiplicity of tribes, but there must be unity in diversity. At the political and economic level we must unite and work together. Even with ZANU, we have all tribes and races, but we have united at the political level.

MOTO: *Do you think that minority parties have any future in Zimbabwe? And, what are your reactions to the demonstrations against Nkomo? Do the demonstrators make him appear larger to the outside world?*

Shamuyarira: You have to ask the minority parties about their future. The demonstrations have been more against the murders and dissidents, and against the fear that Nkomo might bring dissidents into the area. In Chinhoyi for example, Nkomo brought in his youth to strengthen his position and the people protested because they do not want banditry and murder in their areas. But our party is not encouraging the demonstrations; we would like all candidates to be free to travel within their constituencies and within the country. The demonstrations have been reactions to the murders.

MOTO: *If ZAPU wins the same number of seats it won in the last election, would ZANU consider forming a government of national unity with it?*

Shamuyarira: This is really for the Prime Minister and Party to say, but I can say that ZANU is determined to enhance national unity and we will do what is necessary to see that unity is achieved before establishing a one-party state. All parties will be consulted and encouraged to come together.

MOTO: *Is this possible as long as ZAPU is associated with dissidents?*

Shamuyarira: ZAPU must stop murders or there will be no reconciliation or coming together.

MOTO: *To what extent would you say South Africa is responsible for destabilisation in the run up towards the elections?*

Shamuyarira: South Africa does have a general strategy of destabilisation, but we don't know yet the extent to which they will interfere to disrupt the elections. There are still a number of Rhodesian elements there. But we will deal with whatever they may try to do.

MOTO: *What about other foreign interests?*

Shamuyarira: Other countries could intervene by giving monies to minority parties through certain agencies. This was done during the first elections. A number of organisers of minority parties are outside the country raising funds. According to our electoral law, parties are not allowed to get funds from foreign sources. So we will see how fat the bank accounts become when these people return.

MOTO: *When the election campaign starts, will all the political parties be given equal access to, or equal time in the media?*

Shamuyarira: There will be some access given to minority parties to campaign through the media, but we have not worked out the formula. However, we would like all the parties to concentrate on election issues and what they plan to do, instead of abuse and recrimination of other leaders, parties, etc. We want to discourage this approach and concentrate on each party's plan of action; how will they organize the economy, the public service, etc. There will not be much access for recrimination and abuse.

This put people out of work. So there must be complete stability to expand.

The problem of unemployment also becomes more acute with the large number of school leavers. We are going to expand the creation of employment in agriculture and commerce.

MOTO: *How do these plans fit in with the party's chosen policy of socialism?*

Shamuyarira: We intend to increase the socialisation of the means of production at various levels. There has been a gradual introduction of socialism. During the elections in 1980, people talked against socialism and people were told that we would take their cows, their land and even their wives. But now people have been politicized towards socialism and cooperatives. People now understand that the idea is to increase their wealth and to improve their lives. Cooperatives have had their problems — some have been successful while some have not, but we now have a greater demand for cooperatives than we are able to cope with. We have gone slowly to learn from experience — a balance must be struck. In other sectors too there are experiments in socialism.

MOTO: *Since independence, would you say that the party has become stronger in all parts of the country?*

Shamuyarira: The party is stronger because we had no branches in the first elections. We relied on village committees set up by ZANLA forces during the war. We spent 3 years on restructuring the party into cells, branches and provinces. This restructuring exercise, which now includes an expanded central committee and politburo, is completed and the party is very strong.

MOTO: *What actions have ZANU taken in ZAPU's stronghold areas to win the hearts of the people to its side? What success do you think the party has scored in this regard?*

Shamuyarira: We've made some inroads into ZAPU strongholds as can be seen by some of the recent district council elections where we won some wards. The Ndebele must see that ZANU is as much their party as ZAPU. We don't want parties to be divided on tribal lines. Tribalism is the scourge of Africa. People can differ on economic issues, ideology, and strategy.

ZANU is spending a lot of efforts on organizing the party in Matebeleland. I can say that we have 30 – 40 percent in Matebeleland; our support is stronger in different areas. We are pleased with the progress made.

We are unhappy about the banditry and dissidents in the area and the murders of our local leaders which is intended to frighten people away from elections and to frighten leaders who are afraid of murder. For example, I was at the rallies in Nkayi with Nyagumbo and others on the Sunday before Cde Michael Sibanda was killed. He helped organise the rallies and was killed on the following Monday. This has a demoralising effect on our people.

The final solution in Matebeleland is a political solution and this rests with the people. The people must indicate who they support because no one can coerce a people indefinitely.

MOTO: *How would you describe the political climate of the country leading up to the elections?*

Shamuyarira: We want elections to be free and fair. We want the soldiers and the police to remain in the background, and the politicians and the people should be the actors in the general elections. But if the dissident activity increases toward the elections then we must bring the security forces forward, which will restrain the activities of the political process. We hope that the minority parties will join us by not introducing any violence. We want violence in

ZIMBABWE

GROWING CORRUPTION SCANDALS WITHIN GOVERNMENT, CAUSES REPORTED

Gweru MOTO in English No 32, Mar 85 pp 9-10

[Text]

THE scandalous Paweni affair highlighted a phenomenon which is all too evident in the majority of ministries: the disloyalty of many civil servants to Government and their blatant misuse of their bureaucratic powers for personal and tribal gain at the expense of the nation as a whole.

This sorry state of affairs can bring nothing but disaster to Zimbabwe as Government expenditure is illegally channelled into the pockets of a few. Meanwhile, national projects will collapse from a combination of deliberate neglect and ineptitude, for it goes without saying that corruption can only flourish where inefficiency is deliberately courted and built up over a period of time.

Inefficiency and incompetence are essential if corruption is to flourish, and what is evident is that corrupt Government officials in key positions make it their business to nurture and promote inefficient and incompetent junior and middle level officers.

These junior and middle level appointees will owe their promotions not to their ability or hard work, but to a tribal network of personal alliances. And, in position, these appointees owe no loyalty to Government, but only to their tribal alliance.

Inefficiency is the ideal cover for corruption. In recent years there has been a definite trend to promote incompetent black Zimbabweans at the expense of competent black Zimbabweans. The net result is that many competent Zimbabweans have chosen to leave the public service for the private sector in disgust, because they perceive that nepotism is far more important than ability, training, experience and efficiency. Thus the braindrain from the public service is not due to higher pay and "better pastures" in private enterprise, but is in large measure an expression of despair at the degree of cor-

ruption, nepotism and incompetence allowed and even favoured in some circles of the public service. Given free reign, corruption and nepotism will be a deadly cancer capable of destroying Zimbabwe.

When the ZANU-PF Government came into power at Independence in April 1980, it did not bring with it a cadre of experienced and tested administrators who could be placed into key positions in the public service. Instead it recruited a new breed of civil servants either from Zimbabweans who had been studying and living abroad, or from the ranks of the colonial civil service where Africans had been allowed only into relatively junior positions. Both these groups had played no part in the prolonged liberation struggle of the previous two decades.

Under the policy of reconciliation these largely apolitical elements were promoted to the top as well as to middle level and junior level public service posts. While they were not necessarily hostile to the aims and objectives of the new Government, the new group was likely to interpret Government policy as primarily to replace whites by blacks within the same system.

Civil service jobs also became the immediate and often the only sign of African privilege as private enterprise remained largely in the hands of multinationals or of white settler industrialists, with Africans only allowed into the top echelons in limited numbers and in public relations and training positions rather than in controlling positions over finance, policy and the production processes.

Since the civil service was to offer the main and often only opportunity for upward mobility and promotion for Africans, it was not surprising that there was a deluge of applicants at all levels for civil service posts. The position has now been arrived at where

there is often a surplus of suitably qualified and experienced candidates for any one post. Moreover, in this situation, promotion is more dependent on who you know than on any other factor.

The Ministry of the Public Service and the Public Service Commission were set up by the Ian Smith regime specifically to ensure that the public service is free from nepotism. It is therefore a matter of serious surprise and concern that the degree of nepotism can be so great despite the established safeguards. The types of controls thought effective by the Smith regime are far from adequate today: obviously new and more stringent controls are needed if Government is to avoid disaster.

One problem that was not envisaged by the Smith regime, for example, is the problem of "tribal balancing". There is a general impression that a Ministry cannot be accused of nepotism if it is "tribally balanced". Thus a great deal of effort is put into ensuring that at every level there are equal numbers of every major tribe. Minority tribes are virtually out of the picture. However since every major tribe, be it Karanga, Zezuru, Ndebele or Manyika, has a network of its own, tribal balancing does not in any way ensure that the best person gets the job. Rather each tribal alliance puts forward its own candidates, and through a series of intertribal negotiations a compromise is reached. Those candidates who reject a tribal alliance or who are considered "disloyal" to their own "tribe", will naturally not be supported by their own "tribe", however well qualified or well experienced such a candidate may be. Loyalty to the tribal grouping is placed before loyalty to Government or the nation.

Within each tribal grouping and in intertribal alliances, more emphasis is placed on cooperation towards a proper division of power between tribes than on getting the job

done. Each tribal grouping and its representatives works to define powers and privileges. Thus a Government project may be seen as a project belonging to this or that tribe, in which case allies will support it and opponents will try to stop progress on the project. Coordination of all these groups to achieve a common purpose is therefore a very fine art, with a great deal of skillful diplomacy needed to ensure that no project is seen to project any tribal group more than any other.

Incompetence or mistakes are quickly covered up, often to be repeated again later, as such a system of loyalties does not allow the expulsion of incompetent officers who despite their inability to perform, may nevertheless be indispensable for an alliance's welfare. Thus more time is spent on evening and weekend parties and manouevres in order to gain new positions than on actual work on the job. Under such a situation, it is the officer who expends more time on these manouevres rather than the one who dutifully does his job who will get the promotion.

There is little doubt that the ZANU-PF Government is in serious danger of being destroyed by a civil service intent on augmenting its own powers and privileges at the expense of the Government and the country as a whole. If the Government is not prepared to take immediate and decisive steps to stop this cancer, it is likely to grow to uncontrollable proportions. The need for a civil service divorced from tribal considerations but based on loyalty to Government and working in the interests of Zimbabwe is paramount. Unless Government takes steps to politicise civil servants and to prevent any form of nepotism through any tribal alliances, there is little doubt that the wonderful political aspirations of ZANU-PF will be defeated by the very civil service employed to carry out Government policy.

CSO: 3400/838

ZIMBABWE

LABOR BILL CAUSING ALARM IN SEVERAL QUARTERS

Gweru MOTO in English No 32, Mar 85 pp 10-11

[Text]

THE new Labour Relations Bill, one of the most controversial pieces of legislation in Zimbabwe's five years of independence, replaces the Industrial Conciliation, Minimum Wages and Employment Acts. Except for senior civil servants whose terms of employment are governed by the constitution, all workers are covered by the Bill.

But, how widely the government gathered contributions from interested parties is in dispute.

According to Labour Minister Frederick Shava, the International Labour Organisation helped draft the Bill. But some employers and trade unions have been reported in the local press as saying they had hardly any say at all in the legislation.

Aspects of the Bill which employers can be expected to feel strongly about include: the outlawing of lock-outs; the requirement for full disclosure of their financial position if they allege an inability to meet workers' wage demands; the consequences of an unfair labour practice, such as job reinstatement, payment of legal fees and back pay; regulations covering a wide range of working conditions as well as paid maternity leave and time off each day for nursing mothers.

The new labour relations system will hinge on a number of institutions and figures. But, the supremo in the structure is the Labour Minister, who has considerable powers.

The Bill gives the minister the power to make regulations on hours of work, wages, leave, and numerous other conditions of employment. And, on these issues, he has the power to over-rule everyone else.

With less than 20 percent of the country's 1 900 000 workers organised into trade unions, which are themselves still weak, it makes sense for the State to have a say on wages and employment conditions. Under such circumstances, an endorsement of a

laissez-faire bargaining relationship between workers and bosses would clearly not benefit the workers.

However, working conditions laid down by regulations should be clearly understood to be the minimum and not the norm. A union's bid to win more than the minimum for its members should be accepted and encouraged by government. If it is not, there is little point in having unions in Zimbabwe.

While the Bill does not rule out this crucial negotiating role of the unions, it would seem to be doubtful about it, given that the Minister has the power to overrule a negotiated agreement. Furthermore, there is the question of whether the Bill helps strengthen the unions so they can fulfil this and other roles.

The Bill also gives the Minister a substantial say over the unions' finances. Union dues must be approved by the Minister who can also reduce or increase them. The Minister can order the payment of union dues by employers into a trust fund rather than a union's bank account. And, he can also limit equipment and property purchases by unions.

At best, this points to the government's wanting to protect union members from unscrupulous unionists or mismanagement of funds — not unreasonable in the light of the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions bad record.

At worst, the provisions mean the government can control the power of unions by keeping them in a state of perpetual poverty. But the government has a case for saying that this is not its intention given that provision is made elsewhere in the Bill for trade unions to take over businesses threatened with closure.

Either way, it is questionable whether a government minister should have the final

say over the main financial decisions by unions and their members. Members' interests could perhaps best be served by providing them with some specifically legal labour machinery enabling them to act against any financial misdemeanours by union officials.

Workers committees are in the peculiar position of being able to call a strike, but not being able to collect dues which would provide the necessary support to workers during any work stoppage. The anomaly between the right to strike and the ability to exercise that right could perhaps have been avoided by distinguishing between organised and unorganised workers. Where workers are organised, workers committees could be closely linked to the unions and have as their representatives union shop stewards. In the case of unorganised workers, a different status could be given to workers committees, taking into account the lack of union backing.

The ultimate weapon for workers in an exploitative working environment is the strike. If that is curtailed, unions are weakened.

In terms of the Bill, any strike by workers can be outlawed by the Minister simply by declaring their industry an essential service. The Labour Relations Tribunal — which is a court of record presided over by a judge of the High Court or someone qualified to be one — can revoke the Minister's decision on appeal.

The "essential services" that are specified in the Bill are extremely broad. Besides health, electricity, water, fire, sewerage, and rubbish disposal services, mining or any service required for the working of a mine, communications, transport as well as the production, supply delivery or distribution of food and fuel are all regarded as "essential services".

Also, 14 days notice must be given before workers can resort to collective job action. This removes the surprise element, often extremely important to the effectiveness of a strike.

Added to this, a lengthy dispute settling procedure must be followed before workers give notice of collective action.

This process is favoured by employers because they usually have more resources

than a union to support a drawn out dispute and because that time could serve as a cooling off period among workers. The result, however, is often wildcat strikes by workers impatient with lengthy procedures.

Workers are also barred from striking if their union is not certified. This covers unregistered unions as well as registered unions awaiting certification.

Again, workers cannot strike if their union has not sanctioned it.

If collective job action is threatened, the Minister may also step in and temporarily halt any industrial action by issuing "show cause" and "disposal" orders. When this happens, the parties concerned must show cause before a labour relations officer, hearing officer or labour relations board why collective job action should not be ended, postponed, suspended or reduced in scope. These orders also can be applied to lockouts, which are outlawed except with the consent of the Minister. Appeals against the orders may be taken to the Tribunal.

Should workers strike illegally or contravene "show cause" and "disposal" orders they face a fine of up to \$2 000 or jail of up to one year, or both.

The type of unionists a country has is one of the critical factors in building a strong trade union movement.

A weakness in Zimbabwe's liberation struggle was the lack of a union input. This meant that Zimbabwe entered independence without unionists seasoned in struggle, negotiations, and organisation or able to articulate clearly a working class position from the struggles of the shop floor.

For socialist transformation, a strategy to rectify this weakness in the trade union movement as quickly as possible is necessary.

The Bill effectively empowers the Minister to supervise and regulate union elections of officials and set qualifications for union officials. This could be seen, in part, as addressing the unionist problem. But the imposition of qualifications from on top is of doubtful value.

However, whose interests the Bill will, in balance, serve, will to a large extent depend on how the Minister wields his power. □

ZIMBABWE

FIFTY TOP ZAPU MEN VANISH

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 10 Mar 85 p 15

[Commentary]

[Text]

BULAWAYO -- More than 50 key members of Mr Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU party have disappeared in a series of sinister night abductions which the party claims is part of a campaign by the ruling ZANU party to suppress political opposition.

Church and international aid groups with activities Matabeleland confirm that scores, some say hundreds, of community leaders with links to ZAPU have been abducted in the last two months.

Local ZAPU officials, teachers and health workers have all been taken from rural areas by men driving unmarked four-wheel drive vehicles with no licence plates, according to sources.

The abducted people have not been heard from since, and police and army officials say they have no knowledge of them. Most families presume their missing relatives have been killed.

The abduction reports come after the curfew on Bulawayo's

township areas last weekend and the announcement that the bodies of the six foreign tourists had been found renewed attention on the area.

The authorities claim that both the hierarchy of ZAPU and the party's supporters in the kidnap area helped in the crime.

Gilbert Ngwenya, alias Eskimo Wasi, leader of the dissidents who kidnapped the tourists, told reporters yesterday that Mr Nkomo knew in advance about the kidnapping of the six and was informed about their murder. "I belong to ZAPU and to Nkomo," he said.

Ngwenya is awaiting the hangman's noose for his part in the abduction and stood chained to two prison warders as he addressed reporters at a meeting which was attended by senior Ministers and officials.

He said that during his operations with his rebel gang in Matabeleland, he had sent messages to Mr Nkomo telling him what he was doing.

Mr Nkomo has vigorously denied the claims.

CSO: 3400/847

ZIMBABWE

SWEDISH TRADE MAY INCREASE

Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 17 Mar 85 p 2

[Text]

ZIMBABWE exported \$9 million worth of goods to Sweden in the first 11 months of last year, the executive director of the Swedish agency for import promotion for products from developing countries, Ambassador Lennart Klackenberg, said on Thursday.

He told The Sunday Mail at the end of his five-day visit to Zimbabwe that of this, \$4.5 million was made up of tobacco.

"This only represented less than 1 percent of the Swedish import needs which means there is room for increasing our imports from Zimbabwe. That's why I came to Zimbabwe — to establish closer contact between the two countries in terms of trade," he said.

His visit helped to identify other goods and services that could be exported to Sweden.

"For instance, the main import from Zimbabwe has been tobacco and ferro-chrome, but we are thinking of getting such things as fresh flowers, plants, fresh vegetables and fruit, industrial minerals like kyanite as well as garments.

"People might wonder why we have to import fresh fruit when we do grow them in our country. The thing is we have a season, but it is a very short one . . . the demand for fruits and vegetables remains high throughout the year."

The agency, Impod could help potential or-

ganisations and exporters . . . and help them overcome bottlenecks like transport.

"Since we have trucking facilities from central Europe spanning to Holland, France and Britain, we can easily get space for fresh agricultural produce on these trucks to Sweden and that means all the Scandinavian countries.

"If exports from Zimbabwe gain a foothold in Sweden, there is likely to be a growth of imports demanded by other Scandinavian countries," he added.

Another area which needed attention was increasing tourist traffic between the two countries.

Mr Klackenberg had met officials of the Zimbabwe Tourist Development Corporation. He had also extended an invitation to the ZTDC to attend the Goteborg Fair from March 28.

"We shall be . . . featuring the Zimbabwean stand for the second time at the Goteborg Fair and we think we are gaining ground . . . So by the end of the year there should be an increase in the number of Swedish tourists visiting Zimbabwe," he said.

Zimbabwe's imports from Sweden last year totalled some \$18 million.

The major exports to Zimbabwe were telecommunications equipment and electric and transport equipment.

ZIMBABWE

ENVOY TO ROMANIA WELCOMES COOPERATION

Harare THE HERALD in English 19 Mar 85 p 3

[Text] THE President of Romania, Cde Nicolae Ceausescu, has received the credentials of Zimbabwe's new Ambassador to Romania, Cde Nicholas Tasunungura Goehe.

The Romanian Weekly Agenda reported in its February 22-28 edition that Cde Goehe told Cde Ceausescu that like Romania, Zimbabwe backed all efforts aimed at relaxing international strain and at entrenching a sound and durable peace in the world.

Cde Ceausescu observed that Romania and Zimbabwe could further promote close co-operation on major aspects of international issues.

He commended the growth of friendly relations between the two countries going back to the days of Zimbabwe's liberation struggle.

Cde Goehe replaces Cde John Mayowe who has been appointed Zimbabwe's Ambassador to Senegal.

Meanwhile, President Ceausescu was on Sunday re-elected as a deputy to the Grand National Assembly of Romania.

A spokesman for the Romanian Embassy in Harare said yesterday that Cde Ceausescu, who has been proposed as a candidate of the Socialist Democracy and Unit Front for district one of the capital, Bucharest, had been returned with "an overwhelming majority".

The Romanian parliament is re-elected every four years and deputies are chosen from the people's councils at the level of counties, districts and towns.

The spokesman also said two central committee members of the Youth League of Romania arrived in Harare yesterday afternoon for consultations with officials of the Ministry of Youth, Sport and Culture.

He said Cde Diaconescu Constantin and Cde Danilon Dumitru had come from Tanzania where they attended the just concluded Pan-Africa Youth Conference.

During their four day stay, the visiting youth league members are expected to renew a co-operation agreement with the ministry as well as exchange views.

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ZIMBABWE

WEST GERMAN AID FOR PROVINCIAL PROJECTS

Harare THE HERALD in English 19 Mar 85 p 3

[Text] ZIMBABWE and West Germany yesterday signed three agreements worth \$770 000 formalising the grant aid for projects in drought relief and latrine construction that have been completed.

The Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Dr Bernard Chidzero, and the West German Ambassador, Baron Frantz von Mentzingen, signed the agreements for programmes in the Masvingo and Manicaland provinces.

The first agreement of \$150 000 had enabled the construction of 4 000 latrines of the Blair-vented improved latrine type in the two provinces, as well as the installation, on an experimental basis, of one composite latrine.

The other agreements were for \$121 000 emergency funds for drought aid and an additional \$500 000 for the continuation of drought relief programmes to the provinces.

Cde Chidzero noted that Bonn had also given about \$1.6 million in other grants towards improving the food situation in the two provinces, which had been the most seriously affected by the drought. The money had also benefited displaced Mozambicans.

Germany had responded positively to Zimbabwe's request for drought relief and 3 000 tonnes of wheat had arrived in the country in January as part of that.

Cde Chidzero said an exceptional thing about the agreements was that all the financial resources had to date been fully disbursed because West Germany had understood the financial difficulties Zimbabwe was facing.

Baron von Mentzingen expressed satisfaction at the way the projects had been carried out. His country was eager to continue helping Zimbabwe because of the close relationship between the two countries.

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ZIMBABWE

MINES STILL FACE SHORTAGES OF KEY PERSONNEL

Harare THE HERALD in English 19 Mar 85 p 3

[Text] THE mines are still facing shortage of personnel at managerial and technical levels and the situation will be worse if there is development, the chief executive of the Chamber of Mines, Mr Derek Bain, said yesterday.

There were also shortages at middle managerial and technical levels. At the same time there was a surplus below the skilled levels, Mr Bain told The Herald in an interview.

The mines would not be able to recruit unskilled labour until there were new projects in the industry. "At the moment there are no training facilities for higher managerial and technical levels."

Mr Bain appreciated the efforts being made by the Government and the mines in training middle managerial and technical personnel. Besides the Government's training programme, the mines were taking on between 500 and 600 apprentices a year.

The department of mining engineering at the University of Zimbabwe would help solve the higher managerial and technical manpower problem when it starts offering degrees. But the course would last for four years.

Labour relations and discipline among workers had improved because of the increased responsibility shown by the workers' committees and works councils. "There is a great improvement in relations between employer and employee although there are a few areas of conflict."

He praised efforts made by Government leaders in helping instil a sense of responsibility, discipline and productivity among the workers.

There was an improvement in the revenue and cash flow. All stockpiles of minerals had been sold and all production was now going into sales.

This year would see further improvement in the mining industry if the present operating costs were maintained. There were better sales and metal prices.

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ZIMBABWE

BRIEFS

SETTLERS AIDED--RESETTLED farmers in the Mupfurudzi resettlement scheme are building better houses for themselves under the Government rural housing scheme. Twenty-six three-roomed houses have already been completed and another 98 are still being built. The Government has provided building and roofing material under a loan repayable over 30 years. It is also supplying wheelbarrows and shovels which are part of the loan. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 18 Mar 85 p 5]

TRACTORS FOR DANDE--THE Lutheran World Federation has introduced tillage units in the Dande Valley in Guruve to help the nomadic Doma people and other peasants, without cattle to till their land. The peasants will get tractors to plough their lands free of charge. The villages will only provide fuel under the scheme. The LWF is opening offices at Shinje business centre in Guruve to monitor the project which is expected to boost agricultural production in the Dunde region. Many peasants in the valley do not have cattle because the area is infested with tsetse-fly. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 18 Mar 85 p

DISPLACED GET FOOD--THE Ministry of Health has introduced a supplementary feeding scheme for children in the Mazowe Bridge and Nyamatikiti camps for displaced Mozambicans in Rushinga district. A Ministry of Health supervisor Cde Lesita Sajent, said the supplementary feeding scheme was introduced to substitute mahewn and milk which the children were receiving at play-centres. Children between the ages of one and two years were now receiving porridge each day. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 18 Mar 85 p 5]

WORKERS TO LAUNCH JOURNAL--THE Associated Mineworkers of Zimbabwe has received an offset printing machine from the West German Miners' and Energy Workers' Union which it will use, among other things, to launch a journal, the Miners' Voice. The president, Cde Jeffrey Mutandare, said the machine, which arrived last month, was able to print several thousand copies a minute. It would ease correspondence and communication with the union's 75 branches. It would print educational material on workers' rights, health and safety and help in the political orientation of members. Cde Mutandare thanked the West German union for the gift, a result of a trip he had made to that country in 1983 where he had explained the need for his organisation to have a printing machine to improve communication. Cde Mutandare said he believed his union was the only one in possession of this type of machine and it would save the organisation thousands of dollars in fees to commercial printing and duplicating companies. The Miners' Voice was expected to have its first publication at the end of this month. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 19 Mar 85 p 3]

CHINESE BOOKS DONATED--Zanu (PF)--Politburo deputy secretary for education, Cde Frederick Shava flips through the pages of the Selected Works of Zhou Enlai, one of the 1 000 revolutionary books presented to Zanu (PF) yesterday by the Chinese Communist Party, while the Chinese charge d'affaires, Cde Wey Jianye, looks on. Receiving the gift, Cde Shava, who is also the Minister of Labour, Manpower Planning and Social Welfare, said it came at an opportune time when Zanu (PF) was re-organising its administration and the literature would facilitate the process. China had a lot to offer to Zimbabwe, particularly from its revolution which started with the peasantry just like the one waged by Zanu (PF), he said. [Text] [Harcare THE HERALD in English 26 Feb 85 p 4]

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